BY FULTON & PRICE, PROPRIETORS,
*To whom all letters on business must be addressed.*

JAS. FULTON, Editor....A. L. PRICE, Associate Editor.

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# Wilmington Journal.

VOL. 20. } CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA—WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1863. { NO. 14.

**TERMS OF ADVERTISING.**

1 square, of 10 lines or less, for each and every insertion, $2.

Special Notices will be charged $3 per square for each and every insertion.

All Obituaries and private publications of every character, are charged as advertisements.

☞No advertisement, reflecting upon private character can, under ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, be admitted.

**200 NEGROES WANTED.**

I WISH to hire for the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad Company three hundred able-bodied NEGRO MEN, for the year 1864 to cut cord wood and cross ties, and work on the repairs of track. Having on hand a full supply of provisions and clothing, I can safely promise that servants hired to this Company shall at all times be well fed and clothed. The road is located in a healthy section of the country, remote from the enemy's lines, offering unusual inducements to the owners of negroes to hire them to me. Those having negroes to hire will do well to see me. My P. O. address is Chatham N. C. I would like to hear from those of whom I have hired negroes heretofore.

J. C. PETERSON.

Dec. 16, 1863. 12-4w

**NOTICE.**

WILL be sold at the Court House in Smithville, on the first Monday in February next, nine likely NEGROES belonging to the estate of Mrs. Elizabeth Mintz, deceased. Said negroes will be sold for a division among the heirs.

Terms cash.

RUFUS GALLOWAY,
Commissioner.

Dec. 17th 12-7.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF PERISHABLE PROPERTY.**

ON Tuesday the 5th day of January, 1864, at the late residence of Rev. David Wells, deceased, in New Hanover County, I will offer at public sale all the perishable property belonging to the estate of said deceased consisting of—Household and Kitchen furniture, two Horses, one Mule, Corn, Fodder, Potatoes, Cattle, Sheep, rat Hogs, sows and Pigs, Pork, and Lard, two Buggies, two Carts; also 10 negroes will be hired out for the year. The sale will continue from day to day until all is exposed of.

JOHN W. CARR, Administrator.

Dec. 15, 1863. 12-3w.

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,**
HALIFAX COUNTY.

Isaac N. Faulcon and others
against
M. T. J. Alston and wife Martha.

THIS is a petition filed at November Term, A. D., 1863, of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County by Isaac N. Faulcon and others against M. T. J. Alston and wife Martha, praying for a division of slaves, and it appearing to the Court that M. T. J. Alston and wife Martha, reside beyond the limits of the State; it is ordered that publication be made for six weeks in the Wilmington Journal, a weekly newspaper published in the town of Wilmington, notifying said defendants to appear at the next term of said Court to be held at the Court House in Halifax, on the third Monday of February, A. D., 1864, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said petition, otherwise judgment *pro confesso* will be rendered against them.

Witness, Jas. H. Whitaker, Clerk of said Court, at office in Halifax, the third Monday of November, A. D., 1863.

J. H. WHITAKER, Clerk.

Dec. 10 h, 1863 Pr adv $24 11-6t

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,**
HALIFAX COUNTY.

Judy Daniel and others
against
Elizabeth Carstarphur;

IT HIS IS A PETITION filed at November Term, A. D. 1863, of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County, by Judy Daniel and others against Elizabeth Carstarphur, praying for partition of real estate, and it appearing to the Court that Elizabeth Carstarphur resides beyond the limits of the State of North Carolina, it is ordered that publication be made for six weeks in the Wilmington Journal, a weekly newspaper published in the town of Wilmington, notifying said defendant to appear at the next term of said Court, to be held at the Court House in Halifax, on the third Monday of February, A. D. 1864 then and there to answer, plead or demur to said petition, otherwise judgment *pro confesso* will be rendered against her.

Witness, Jas. H. Whitaker, Clerk of said Court, at office in Halifax, the third Monday of November, A. D. 1863.

JAS. H. WHITAKER, Clerk.

Dec. 10, 1863. Pr adv $24 11-6t.

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,**
HALIFAX COUNTY.

Isaac N. Faulcon and others,
vs.
M. T. J. Alston and wife.

THIS is a partition filed at November Term, A. D., 1863, of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said county, by Isaac N. Faulcon and others, against M. T. J. Alston and wife Martha, praying for a distribution of real Estate; and it appearing that M. T. J. Alston and wife Martha reside without the limits of the state, it is ordered that publication be made for six weeks in the Wilmington Journal, a weekly newspaper, published in the town of Wilmington, notifying said defendants to appear at the next term of said Court at the Court House in Halifax, on the third Monday of February, A. D., 1864 then and there to plead, answer or demure to said petition, otherwise judgment *pro confesso* will be rendered against them.

Witness, Jas. H. Whitaker, Clerk of said Court, at office in Halifax, the 3d Monday of November, A. D., 1863.

JAS. H. WHITAKER, Clerk.

Dec. 8th, 1863. Pr adv $4 11 6t

**NOTICE.**

PERSONS having claims against either the estates of Mrs. E. J. Banks, dec'd, or James H. Banks, dec'd, will please present them to me for payment, and those indebted are requested to settle the same, it being necessary that such claims should be adjusted by the 1st day of February next.

WM. BLANKS.

Dec. 17, 1863. 3-6w

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,**
*New Hanover County Court, September Term, 1863.*

Cena S derman,
vs.
The heirs at law of
David A derman,
Petition for Dower.

It appearing to the Court, that some of the defendants are non-residents, it is ordered that publication be made in the Wilmington Journal for such defendants as live beyond the limits of the State, to appear at the next term of this Court to plead, answer or demur, or judgment will be taken as to them.

Test. SAM'L R. BUNTING, Clerk.

Dec. 24th 13 6t

A story is current among the Chinese of a great drinker who was able to sit all the day at the table, and after consuming what would have been sufficient to drive the reason out of half a dozen men, would rise up perfectly sober. The Emperor, hearing the fame of this deep drinker, asked him to dinner, that he might test his marvellous powers. As the story goes, the Emperor had ordered a hollow figure to be cast in bronze, of the exact size and model of this man, and, as the wine was served for each cup that the guest drank a similar one was poured into the opening on the top of the head of the image. This went on for some hours, until the bronze statue overflowed, while the guest continued at the table and rose from it perfectly sober.

**THE FRENCH COUNT AND THE NEGRO COOK.**

The Richmond correspondent of the London Index tells the following story about the Vicomte de Saint Romain, whose visit to Richmond some months ago attracted some attention:

"The Count, having borne with the wretched cuisine of the ———, until menaced by starvation, went out, like a pelican of the wilderness, into the town in search of a dinner. Happily, he found one at the *Restaurant au Rendezvous*, (formerly Zatelle's) so much to his liking and so touchingly suggestive of Paris, that he begged the cook might be sent up into the *salle a manger*, as he desired to make his grateful acknowledgments to an artist and a compatriot—not doubting, for an instant, that the dishes before him were the work of a Frenchman. The Count's amazement may be imagined when the door opened some minutes afterwards and there entered a very stout, greasy old negro woman, as black as the ace of spades, who announced herself as the presiding divinity of the kitchen. "I se de cook; massa," said the old "auntie," curtseying; which being translated to the Count, he expressed his surprise at the boundless resources of the Confederacy, and declared if such cooking were possible under slavery, the "peculiar institution" had been much belied, and was worth fighting for, indeed."

PASS HIM AROUND.—A man named John Minsey, *alias* Williams, *alias* John Mathis, who has been passing off as a First Lieutenant of Artillery in Confederate service, and has several times escaped from different places of confinement, broke out of the guard house in Columbia, on Tuesday night, and is now at large. Said Minsey is about 22 years old, five feet ten inches high, sallow complexion, coarse features, dark curly hair, but tolerably short, no whiskers or beard; he had on when he left a grey round jacket, blue pants and a light colored soft hat. He has been going round on crutches for some time, in artillery uniform, and limps a little when walking. Charleston Courier.

A DEPARTMENT CLERK SHOT.—A few days since, Mr. Frank Boone, a Clerk engaged in the Post Office Department, was shot by the Yankees on the Potomac river. Boone was returning to Maryland, where he was to be married, and was accompanied by five or six companions. When nearing the opposite shore of the river they discovered the enemy's camp fires, and landed two miles above. Just as Boone was in the act of pushing the boat off, the Yankees fired and killed him instantly. He was brought to this side of the river and buried.—*Richmond Whig.*

We have been furnished with the following statement of the capture of the Margaret and Jessie by one of its passengers. It may, therefore be considered reliable:

The steamship Margaret and Jessie left Nassau on the 2d of November. Had bad weather for ten days, and failed to make Wilmington on the night of the 5th, as expected. On the 6th, lay off Eastward of that port until about 11 o'clock, when the Keystone State was seen making for us. The ship was at once gotten under way, and succeeded in escaping, after about four hours chase. About 11 o'clock that night, we made the land about twenty miles North of Wilmington, and ran down the coast, passing inside of the blockade squadron, but was seen and fired at by one of them. We were in a short distance of New Inlet, and signalled Fort Fisher, which was acknowledged, but as we were turning to run in through the inlet, we observed a gunboat lying across the channel. We were so near she hailed us, and it was utterly impracticable to run by her and have any hope of saving the ship. We at once turned about and made our way through the blockade out to sea taking the fire of grape from a 12 pounder on deck of the gunboat, which did us no damage.—(We after capture learned that they failed to get off their heavy guns at us, on account of the powder in them being damp). We were followed by several of the blockading squadron, and at day light the Keystone State and Niphon were within range of us just astern. In fifteen minutes more, we made the James Adger dead ahead.

We charged our course, and succeeded in putting all three astern; but about 7 o'clock we made the Fulton dead ahead. We now again changed course, and commenced throwing overboard the cargo, having great fear of being cut off in the quartering run we were making. We, however, again succeeded in placing our ship ahead of the four in the chase, and now congratulated ourselves upon our good prospects of escape. We were gradually leaving all astern of us, and ran on this way until about 10 o'clock, when we again made dead ahead the Nansemond. We now again had a quartering run for life, and was forced to run with the wind, giving the Fulton the advantage of all her sails, we carrying none. The Nansemond succeeded in nearing sufficiently to make a few shots at us without any effect. At 12 o'clock, the wind stiffened up very much, and getting into the gulf, the sea was heavy. This soon put the Nansemond out of the question. The Keystone State, Niphon and James Adger, we had regarded out of the chase some time previous, and it now was a question of speed between the Fulton and ourselves. The wind and sea favoring her, she now for the first time commenced lessening the distance, gaining very perceptibly from half-past 12 to half-past 1, and at 2 o'clock commenced with her bow gun throwing alternately shell and round shot at us.

Every exertion was now made to increase the speed of the ship. The cargo was going overboard, our only sail was hoisted, every ounce of steam our boilers would bear was on; and every officer and man was at his proper place. There was no excitement; calmness and a desire to do everything that lay in his power to save the ship was the feeling and action of every individual on board. But after 3 o'clock it became painfully certain that all our exertions were of no avail, yet we did not slacken our efforts in the least, although the shot and shell were falling all around us. At 4 o'clock the Captain gove the order "Hard aport," and "stop her," and we were a Yankee prize. We had been chased fourteen hours, and made thirteen and a half knots as our average run. (The Fulton, after twelve o'clock, made fourteen and a quarter, according to her log) We were immediately transferred from our ship to the Fulton, and in half an hour a hawser was attached to the Margaret and Jessie, and we were under way for New York. We were treated courteously and kindly on board the Fulton; even some of the officers of the ship gave up their rooms, that the ladies and a few others of us might occupy them. On our arrival in New York, the ladies, not being considered prisoners, were allowed their liberty at once, and their trunks were delivered after a nominal search on the following day. The rest of us were detained in the Ludlow-street County Jail for examination. After three days, all except five of us were discharged and allowed as they might choose to make their way out of the country.

Of the five American born prisoners remaining, four were, on the tenth day of imprisonment, sent down to Fort Lafayette, where they remained. Their names are Captain R. W. Lockwood, Purser W. T. Dortic, Wm. Withington, engineer, and C. W. Craig, passenger. They are prisoners of war by decision of the Government, having been captured by an army transport, and not by the navy. This entitles them to a regular exchange.

The object of this statement more especially is to correct an impression which found its way from one of the Richmond papers into the New York Herald, that the presence of the lady passengers on board the Margaret and Jessie prevented other means than those employed being resorted to to save the ship. These ladies stood the fire splendidly, and throughout the chase behaved with the greatest coolness and courage, and their presence by no means, known to the Captain, effected the result in the slightest.—*Chas. Courier.*

**A HAIRY SHOEMAKER.**

Upon the banks of the Mississippi, in the State of Tennessee, there once dwelt an old chap by the name of Yadge—Tom Yadge. Now Tom had been an honest, hard-working man all his life, but he had never owned a saddle; but as Tom grew old, his wealth and importance increased, and with it a desire for a hog skin; so he one day packed up a clean shirt, stuffed a hundred dollars into his wallet, stepped upon a steamboat, and away he started down the river to New Orleans to buy a saddle. Now this was the first trip Tom ever made; he had lived all his life where he was born, and had never heard any other language than that of his mother's tongue. In the course of a few days he landed upon the levee at New Orleans.

Little poor Tom knew what he had to encounter. The Frenchman was there, the Italian was there, the Spaniard was there, the German was there—some from all parts of the world were crowded upon that levee—and there was Tom, with his eyes stretched and ears open, completely mystified and bewildered at the strange jargon going on around him; he stood it as long as mortal man well could, and at last struck out, with his mind fully prepared to be surprised at nothing he saw, upon his errand of the saddle.

After meandering about the city for some time, he at length found a sadler's shop. Tom, with heart elate, walked in.

The first and only living creature which met his vision was a baboon of the largest species, sitting upon the counter, playing with the girths which were hanging from the saddle immediately over his head. Tom very politely addressed him:

"How do you do, sir?"

The baboon grinned and nodded.

"I wish to buy a saddle," says Tom.

The same expression from the monkey. In a louder key from Tom.

"I want to buy a saddle."

A very polite grin from the baboon.

"I will give you $20 for that saddle," says Tom, at the same time handing him a $20 bill.

The animal, having seen his master put money in the drawer, took it, and hopping along the counter, made a deposit of Tom's $20 note. He returned, however, immediately to his former position.

Tom:—"Well, hand us down the pig skin."

Very little notice from the baboon.

"Hang it, why don't you give me my saddle? I have paid you for it, so hand it down, or I will take it myself."

An awful chattering from the baboon. Tom, not intending to be fooled with any longer, reached out and caught hold of his property, but no sooner had the poor fellow done so than the nails and teeth of the monkey were driven into his arm. Tom kicked and swore—the baboon bit, screamed—until, at last, the owner of the shop, a Frenchman, with a long moustache, came rushing into the room.

"What you do, sare. What do you want in here, you old rascal? By gar, you shall give me *satisfacshune.*

Tom, not in the least daunted, but very much exasperated, ripped out:

"You infernal old hairy mouth scoundrel! I believe you wish to steal my $20! I came in here, bought a saddle, paid the money down for it, and now, when I want to go going with it, your *son* there has refused to let me have it, and has kicked up a fuss about it!"

Tom, however, got his saddle, and returned the next morning in the boat going up the river; but has been heard to swear it was the last one he ever wished to purchase.

**From the Savannah Republican**
**A Yankee Plan of Peace.**

We have occasional evidence through the Press, that there are at least a few men in the Yankee nation who have not wholly parted with their brains. The London Times gives the following as an extract of a private letter from a gentleman in one of the Northern States to a friend in London:

"OCTOBER 26, 1863.

"* * * In answer to your inquiries whether pacification on a basis of separation, permanent or temporary, is likely to be acceptable or is practicable, I can only answer for myself. Acceptable it certainly would not be just now in the North, a community excited in one way or another beyond the reach of reason; but acceptable it soon must be, when the weariness of sorrow becomes stronger and financial trouble is more imminent. There is a growing feeling in favor of peace and recognition, in preference to the continuance of such a war, or to intervention from abroad; though rather than this brotherly bloodshed should go on, people may become reconciled to that as a means of peace. My American instincts yet revolt at the forcible intervention of foreign nations in our domestic feuds. I cannot, however, as a friend of peace, see any objection to foreign recognition—to which I think the South entitled—and which in my poor judgment, at once would produce peace. There is a prevalent misteke abroad on this point.

"A reasonable plan of pacification, supposing statesmen to direct our policy, would be this:

"1. If the war is to go on for a time, as from mere momentum perhaps it must, let it be turned as soon as possible from attempted conquest to a war for limits and terms of settlement.

"2. Let negotiations be opened at once with the Government at Richmond for such settlement, making more formal recognition one of the matters for discussion. The Shelburne ministry sent Mr. Oswald and Mr. Grenville to Paris, in 1782, to negotiate before they recognized us. The mission of that negotiation is very impressive now.

"Of course the Southern Confederacy, as an existing concrete thing, is to be recognized *de jure*. There can be no peace without it.

"4. As to limits, I, as a Northern man, prefer a natural to an arbitrary boundary; very much prefer the Potomac and the Ohio to the line of blazed trees and landmarks that now separate us, and which has been quite ineffectual to protect us from two invasions.

"5. But the States of Maryland and Delaware have a right to determine their relations to the two Confederacies by a free vote—free, I mean, in fact, and not in form—and their decision affects boundaries. Pennsylvania is assumed to go with the North.

"6. In any event of separation, Washington should not be the capital of either Confederacy. For the North it would not be suitable; as a frontier fortress, which it is, it would be intolerable to the South. For the South it would be equally unsuitable. Let it be a monument of the glorious past. It is worthless now for any practicable purpose.

"7. The navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi, and, in the event of Maryland joining the South, of the Susquehanna and Chesapeake, to be free.

"8. A common tariff for the two Confederacies as to foreign nations, on a revenue basis, to be made by commercial treaties, and no tariff of duties or custom houses between the Confederacies.

"9. Indemnities, and compensations, and territorial rights to be subjects of negotiation.

"This I think is a fair and reasonable basis of pacification, neither intimating nor excluding the possibility of reconfederation, but providing against future differences.

"This may save the public debts, nothing else will; for the alternative for the North will be further disintegration when the hour of disgust comes, as it surely will; and then the national debt falls in ruin.

"This is an honest answer to your question."

There is a great deal of common sense and statesmanship in the above programme for a peace. There are points, true, to which we would object, but we must recollect that it is but the *ex parte* view of a citizen of the North, and subject, of course, to modification in the course of negotiation. Generally the plan is a good one, and sooner or latter the North will come to sense and be glad to adopt it. The eighth article contains a stipulation which we would rather continue the war than agree to. Whilst it is difficult to see how restrictions on trade can be enforced between two countries with nothing but a narrow river boundary between them for several thousand miles, the idea of a common tariff to regulate our trade with foreign countries is wholly inadmissible. I would be a base truckling on our parts to Yankee greed; and gain—the very motive at the bottom of the war—and to agree to it we should be almost as badly whipped in the treaty as we possibly could be in the field. We begrudge the boon of free trade with our detested foe and would never agree to it so long as it is practicable to put them on the same footing with other foreign nations; and to complicate our foreign relations, making them subservient to Yankee interests, would be a compromise of our independence and a national degradation which we should never submit to.

HOW LINCOLN'S MESSAGE "TOOK" IN NEW YORK.—The New York Herald, in a lengthy article on the subject of sensations, remarks:

Out of pure love for President Lincoln we tried to make a sensation about his message the other day; but we tried in vain. Before this war we used to print an extra edition of from ten to thirty thousand copies of the Herald containing the President's message, and all these copies were bought up like hot cakes by the eager public. On Wednesday we obtained the first copy of Mr. Lincoln's message by telegraph. We printed it first, and had our extra ready before our sleepy contemporaries knew what they were about. The newsboys were notified by the bulletins that the message was in town. Well, we printed four hundred and eighty copies of the message. Of these we sold one hundred and eighty copies to the newsboys. Undoubtedly we should have been "stuck" (as the newsboys classically phrase it) with the remaining three hundred, had not a countryman come along in the nick of time and bought the whole batch, on a venture, to dispose of on his way home. We have every reason to believe that our country customer sincerely repented of his bargain. This little incident is the strongest proof we could produce of the complete indifference of the public.

In Artemus Ward's inimitable lecture on Ghosts he tells of an absurd man who wouldn't have glass in his windows—he thought the sash would be enough, as it would keep out the coarsest of the cold. This reminds the correspondent of the Boston Post of a story that old Parson H., of P., (not "H. P.") used to tell of his experience of the night of his marriage. They went on a "bridal tower" to his cousin's down on the shore of Connecticut, and spent the night, which was one of the coldest of the season, and being put in a cold spare room, they suffered severely. After a while his wife asked him to get up and see if he couldn't find something more to put on the bed. After diligent search, he could find nothing but his and his wife's clothing, which he gathered up and packed upon the bed, and got in and tried it again, but still they "grew no warmer very fast," and his wife begged him to get up and search about and see if anything more could be found, and suggested that there might possibly be something in a closet in one corner of the room; so he went and examined the closet, and reported to his wife that an old fish net was the only thing he could find. "Well, dear," said she, "*put it on, put it on, that will tangle the cold a little.*"

In the old United States postal service there was always a deficiency of receipts over disbursements of an average of a million a year. The Postmaster General of the Confederacy reports that his receipts for the past fiscal year amounted to $675,048 44 more than expenditures. This item is important for this reason: it shows that the people of the South are a reading and a writing people; that they are, as a class, well educated, and have constant intercourse with one another.

CREDIT OF GEORGIA.—The whole debt of Georgia does not amount to $15 000 000.—To meet it she has $9,000,000 of available public poperty and her taxable property on the gold basis is nearly $800,000,000.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 24, 1863.

**Confederate Congress.**

IN the Confederate Senate on Tuesday, various petitions were presented for increase of salaries. Certain propositions to amend the law imposing a tax in kind, were referred to the Committee on Finance. One of these propositions is to exempt sweet potatoes of this year's raising.

The bill amending the act to aid the State of Kentucky was taken up and passed. It directs the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to the Governor of Kentucky one million of dollars, to be employed in purchasing clothing for the Kentucky troops now in the military service of the Confederate States.

The House was chiefly occupied in the discussion of a bill to prohibit and punish trading in the enemy's currency, and also in the discussion of the substitute question.

The bill in relation to illegal currency prohibits brokers and merchants of all descriptions from dealing in the paper currency of the United States, the penalties being the forfeiture of the amount, a fine of not less than $1000, nor more than $10,000, and imprisonment for not less than three months, nor more than three years. The bill was ordered to be printed, and laid over for the present.

In regard to substitutes there is a decided difference of opinion. The committee on military affairs does not propose to put into the army those who actually have substitutes there, but does propose to revive the liability of those whose substitutes have deserted, and of those who originally, through carelessness, corruption or otherwise, had been permitted to put in substitutes who were physically unfit for the service. If those whose substitutes have deserted are themselves held liable, we think that will be as far as Congress will go.

P. S.—By the telegraphic despatches from Richmond which will be found in to-day's paper, it would appear that the House has determined to go for putting all into the service, substitute or no substitute. The large vote by which the bill was passed, shows a very decided feeling on the subject. The military committee of the Senate had, over a week before, reported a bill having in it a similar provision. This looks like bringing the thing down closer than we had thought Congress would do.

GEN. THOMAS JEFFERSON GREEN died at his residence, in Warren county, N. C., on the 12th instant, in the 62d year of his age.

Gen. GREEN was a man of active enterprise and of most liberal and kindly disposition, and had borne part in as many stirring scenes as almost any man we ever knew. He figured as General in the Texan war of independence, a member of the Texan Congress, the leader of the Mier expedition, one of the band of "Mier Prisoners" and subsequently historian of that transaction. He was afterwards a State Senator in California and Major General of the militia of that State. He was a thorough and devoted friend of the Confederate cause, giving of his means liberally, and extending an unlimited hospitality to refugees.

GENERAL JOHNSTON'S ARMY.—As General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON arrived at Dalton, Ga., on Monday last, and immediately assumed command, we suppose the army of the Tennessee may hereafter be referred to as General JOHNSTON'S army. The army is said to be in excellent condition.

COLD.—We think this morning was the coldest of the year. The weather is clear and bracing, however, and would be glorious were it not for the thoughts of our soldiers in the field, and those of our people at home without adequate means of protection against the rigors of the season.

☞Speaking of Christmas, Mr. HOPKINS', Market, above Second Street, offers a tempting Bill of Fare for Christmas dinner. See advertisement. A man could make a meal at that we think.

For the Journal.

*Messrs. Editors:*—

Permit me, through your paper, to return my sincere thanks to the officers and crew of the steamship Hansa, for their very liberal donation of over $2,000, and especially to Mr. Alexander McLeod for his courtesy and very valuable assistance in obtaining this sum, which has been spent for and turned over to the Sisters of Mercy in Augusta and Charleston. After seeing and knowing what these noble and self-sacrificing ladies have accomplished for the suffering, the wounded and the destitute, without reward or the hope of reward, no one can doubt that some substantial mark of our appreciation is due to them.

I would also take this opportunity to return my thanks to Mr. D. Kohnweiler for a deduction from the price of goods bought from him, to the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (500), and also to Mr. James McCormick for a bolt of cloth given, valued at over One Thousand Dollars, (1,000). MISS BUIE.

**CHEAP GENERATION OF STEAM.**

Some months ago we noticed that our Navy Department appointed a commission of three Chief Engineers of the Navy, Messrs. Wood, Whipple and Stimers to investigate, by actual experiment, the process of using as fuel hydrocarbon oils for the generation of steam.

This commission made a series of careful experiments, extending over a period of five months which have proven highly satisfactory. From their report we extract the following:—

"In the experiments under consideration, the volume of flame was so great as to pass entirely through the tubes of the boiler, and heat the smoke-pipe red hot for several feet from the base, in consequence of which the maximum amount of combustion, and evaporation was not reached, in the use of petroleum." The evaporation in favor of the petroleum was 103 per cent. as shown by the report; the same boiler being used with the best anthracite coal, and under precisely the same condition."

The time of generating steam from water of equal temperature to 20 pounds pressure above the atmosphere, was, for the oil, an average of 28 minutes and for the coal, 60 minutes; or in favor of the oil, 114 3 per cent.

The time from full operation for the complete extinguishment of the fire, in the use of the oils, was about 16 seconds. One of our iron-clads or naval steamers, by its success ful use as suggested in the experiments so far as tried, would be enabled to keep the sea under steam two or three times as long, with less labor and greater convenience, as compared with the use of coal, equal weights of each on board being considered.

These advantages, as set forth in this report are very great, and no doubt a complete revolution in the mode of generating steam will be the result. We understand that a company is now being formed in New York, with the intention of purchasing a first-class sea going steamer, to apply at once this invention, with a view to bring the matter fully before the public.

*Baltimore American.*

PERSIMMON SYRUP.—Mr. S. W. Fulton informs us that he has made an excellent quality of syrup from persimmons. The process is quite simple, and the syrup is superior to the sorghum. Put the persimmons in a vessel and boil until the saccharine matter is fully dissolved, which can be told by the coagulation of the fruit, then strain, and boil the liquid to any desired consistency.—*Greensborough Patriot.*

# TELEGRAPHIC.

**Reports of the Press Association.**

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

**FROM CHARLESTON.**

CHARLESTON, Dec. 23, 1863.

All is quiet at Sumter. No firing on the part of the enemy for the past 24 hours. Moultrie has kept up a steady fire on the working parties at Gregg. Some changes are being made both in Gregg and Wagner, the nature of which has not transpired. The fleet remains inactive, and the number of vessels about the same. Our gunboats have been practicing to day, and did some fine shooting.

**FROM CHARLESTON.**

CHARLESTON, Dec. 24, 1863.

No change of importance. A few shots have been fired from our batteries at the working parties on Morris Island. The enemy made no reply.

There has been no further bombardment of the city.

**FROM CHARLESTON—THE SHELLING CONTINUED.**

CHARLESTON, Dec. 25, 1863.

Nothing authentic in relation to the firing heard in the direction of John's Island. It is believed to have been an engagement between some of our batteries and the enemy's gun boats. The shelling of the city has been continuous, with only an interval of one hour at noon. One white man was mortally and one white woman slightly wounded, by shells. Three firemen were badly wounded by the falling of the walls of the burnt buildings, and some eight or ten slightly. Affairs at Sumter are quiet.

**FROM CHARLESTON—FIRE IN THE CITY.**

CHARLESTON Dec. 25th, 1863

The enemy commenced shelling the City last night, keeping up a steady fire, which is still going on at 9 o'clock this morning. A fire broke out about 2 o'clock, destroying some ten or twelve buildings, and causing a few casualties. Heavy firing is heard in the direction of Stono.

**ARRIVAL OF GEN. MORGAN.**

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 23, 1863.

Gen. Jno. H. Morgan passed through this city this evening. He walked to Walhalla, South Carolina, and thence by Railroad.

**CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.**

RICHMOND, Dec. 23, 1863.

The most of the day in the House was spent in discussing the bill to put men in service who have heretofore furnished substitutes. The deepest interest was manifested by both members and spectators from first to last. Various amendments were proposed; one that all who now have sufficient substitutes in the service, or whose substitutes have died or been disabled in line of duty, shall be exempt one year from the day that the substitute entered the army; and another providing compensation, &c. These were voted down. The bill, as amended and passed, is as follows:

WHEREAS, In the present circumstances of the country, it requires the aid of all who are able to bear arms; the Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That no person shall be exempted from military service by reason of his having furnished a substitute; provided that nothing in the foregoing clause shall be so construed as to relieve the substitute from any obligation or liability contracted or assumed by him as such substitute; but this act shall not be so construed as to affect persons who, though not liable to render military service, have nevertheless put in substitutes.

This bill was adopted by a vote of fifty-two to thirteen. A motion to reconsider was voted down by a large majority.

The House passed the bill agreed to by the Senate on yesterday to pay the Provisional Governor of Kentucky one million of dollars to clothe the Kentucky soldiers. This bill awaits the President's approval. The Senate bill to protect members of Congress from the annoyance of passport agents was voted down by 29 to 28. In the Senate the bill to allow farmers to pay their potatoe tax in money was passed and awaits the President's signature. The Military Committee reported back the bill heretofore referred to them to repeal the act authorizing the destruction of property as a military necessity, with a recommendation that it do not pass; placed on the calender. The President sent to the Senate a communication from the Secretary of war in response to the inquiry as to who is now filling the office of Quartermaster General, which elicited a lengthy speech, somewhat severe on the President for appointing Gen. Lawton to that office, and charging that it was without authority of law.

**AVERILL'S RAID.**

RICHMOND, Dec. 23, 1863.

A private despatch from Union, dated yesterday, says that the Yankees have not been here. Averill is reported to have passed White Sulphur Springs on the 20th, on his return. He was badly worsted. It is reported that one of his largest regiments, the 14th Pennsylvania, was cut off.

**FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA.**

ORANGE, C. H., VA., Dec. 23, 1863.

Some few prisoners, captured near Warrenton Junction, were brought here to-day. They report all quiet in their lines.

**FROM TENNESSEE.**

ERISTOL, Dec. 23, 1863.

Our forces are still around Ratledgeville and Morristown. Cannonading was heard there on Sunday evening. Longstreet was unable to follow up his advantage in consequence of the large number of barefooted men in his command. The weather is cold, and the mountains crowned with snow.

**FROM NEW ORLEANS—THE FORT JACKSON MUTINY.**

MOBILE, Dec. 24th, 1863.

Capt. Abels, of the steamer Alice Vivian, has been released, and arrived from New Orleans. Two white regiments, sent down to Fort Jackson, had not recovered the fort. Fighting Saturday.

**CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.**

RICHMOND Dec. 25, 1863.

The bill which passed the House on yesterday, putting men into the army who have furnished substitutes, came up to-day for consideration in the Senate. It appeared to meet favor with a majority of that body, and a strong opposition was manifested to pass it at once, but it was postponed and made the special order for Monday next. The prospect of this bill becoming a law is attracting a large share of public attention. Some holders of Confederate securities who have substitutes in the army, are putting their bonds on the market to be sold at once.

Both Houses passed the bill authorizing assistant quartermasters and agents engaged in collecting the tax in kind to receive from farmers salt, pork in lieu of bacon.

The proposition to place every able bodied man in the country in the army and put the whole country under military control, was debated in the Senate. The bill was postponed till next Wednesday.

Mr. Johnson, new member from Missouri, appeared and took his seat.

The House passed a bill providing that any person who shall in any manner circulate, or trade in paper currency of the United States, shall be punished by fine not more than $2,000, and imprisoned not more than three years.

The committee on military affairs reported a bill to allow officers in the army to draw rations in kind, quantity and quality, same as privates, and purchase clothing from the quartermaster at cost was placed on the calendar.

The committee on foreign affairs reported a bill prohibiting blockade running during the war, except under government regulations. It prohibits theentering to any foreign country, in any vessel or vehicle, any cotton, tobacco, military or naval stores, sugar, molasses, or rice, without previous permit from Government. After giving a description of the vessel and cargo, and a bond complying with such conditions as may be imposed concerning investment of proceeds of sales, and the kind of return cargo, makes violation a high misdemeanor on the part of all assisting to load vessels or collect cargo, and forfeiture of cargo, vessel or vehicle, and all slaves engaged in loading or collecting cargoes and conveying the same to ship. The same committee reported a bill establishing the Bureau of Foreign Supplies under control of the War Department, to superintend all importations on Government account.

Both Houses adjourned 'till Monday.

**FROM BRISTOL.**

BRISTOL, Tenn., Dec. 24, 1863.

No change in affairs in front to report. The continued bad weather has prevented any movement by either party. The enemy's pickets are 12 miles this side of Knoxville.

**FROM DALTON.**

DALTON, Dec. 25, 1863.

A squad of forty men, under Major White of the first regiment Confederate cavalry, made a dash into Cleveland on the 22nd inst., driving the enemy's pickets, and killing and wounding one and capturing six, besides twelve horses and some small arms. Our scouts report two thousand Yankees encamped at Cumberland Shed, two miles north of Cleveland, and a similar force south of that place.

**From Gen. Lee's Army.**

ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 17th, 1863.

The campaign of 1863 may now be said to be over. The troops are doubtless in their winter quarters, and the condition of the weather to-day leads us to believe that all warlike operations are now at an end until the vernal suns of 1864 shall bring a more favorable season for military movements. The enemy is in Culpeper county, with the bulk of his infantry, consisting of four corps, lying around the Court House and Brandy Station, and with his cavalry pickets reaching out to and beyond Mitchell's Station. One corps is beyond the Rappahannock, for the purpose of guarding the railroad. It is not true that the enemy have ever destroyed any part of the railroad, or that they intend to change their base of operations. On the contrary, as spring opens Meade will either push for Richmond or be forced back to Washington.

A party of prisoners, five in number, brought in yesterday evening, say that the enemy are busily occupied in constructing mud huts, and in corduroying the roads so as to make them fit for travel. Our men are similarly occupied, and already have constructed very comfortable quarters, whilst the pioneer corps have been unremitting in their efforts to improve our roads. The road passing Orange C. H. has been converted into quite a good pike.

Frequent enquiries are made as to how the army is fed. In response I would say that the army receives an abundance of good flour and beef for five days, and bacon, for the other two days of each week. Occasionally there are issues of sweet and Irish potatoes. The army has also been receiving during the last ten days supplies of new clothing and some shoes. The troops are well fed, and, in the main, well clad, the only much needed article to the soldiers' comfort being blankets. The lack of them could readily be supplemented if the people possessed a tithe of the patriotism they exhibited in the outset of this war.

The country will be gratified to learn of the return to command of Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton, now commanding a division of cavalry in the army. Gen. H. was wounded at Gettysburg. The cavalry corps is composed of Hampton's and Fitz Lee's divisions, the whole under command of Major General J. E. B. Stuart.

LIVING IN THE NORTH AND DOING BUSINESS IN THE SOUTH.—A correspondent asks, "Is persons back here to go North, with the intention of staying there while the war lasts, is their property subject to confiscation or not?" He cites a case in point, but we prefer, at present, to present it in a general way. A has made money during the war, and bought property. Having no further interest in the Southern cause, and not being able to make money by the pike, expresses his intention to "go North," but don't want to sell for the "Confederate trash." So he makes a short conveyance to some fellow, equally conniving like himself, and gets a passport to go to Europe to see an old mother, or some one else, and the first thing we hear of the absentee he is in Baltimore or Washington, playing detective to the Lincoln Government, or selling whiskey for "greenbacks." Meanwhile his property is safe, and bringing good interest. Another case in point, B wishes to dispose of his property and not "stick" for the same reasons. He sells and takes bonds or notes payable after the war. With these in his pocket, secured by the property, he retires from the troubled arena. A and B are isolated cases, but the two specimens of a large class who have left the Confederacy, and are still leaving in scores, without check or restraint.—*Rich. Examiner.*

From the Manchester Examiner, Nov. 21.

**A Monster Gun—Trial of Sir William Armstrong's Six Hundred Pounder.**

This monster gun—which weighs about [illegible] two tons, is fifteen feet long over all, and has a bore of thirteen and a half inches—was submitted to a trial at Shoeburyness on Thursday. It carries a conical cast-iron, hollow-headed shot, weighing six hundred pounds, and capable of containing a bursting charge of no less than for

# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 31, 1863.


### MISSING.

The following copies of our *Weekly Journal* are missing from our files. Any person having them will confer a favor by sending them to us, for which we will pay 50 cents for two copies of each date:

October 9th, 1862—2 copies.
March 19th, 1863—1 "
" 26th, 1863—2 "

### THE SUBSTITUTE LAW

Is now the matter which is exciting the liveliest interest throughout the Confederacy. The House has passed a law placing all principals in the army, and at the same time retaining the substitutes. No provision for compensation to the principals is contained in the bill passed by the House, nor does any such provision appear to be contemplated. What the action of the Senate will be is not definitely known, but from the tone of that body it is evident that, to all intents and purposes, it will coincide with that of the House.

*As things* have turned out, it is now apparent that it would have been better had no substitute law ever been passed by Congress. The thing has not worked well, for sundry reasons. But these reasons were not apparent when the law was passed, or they did not present themselves with the same force that they do now. It may be that the length and intensity of the struggle was not anticipated, nor the necessity for bringing every man into the field. Indeed, we all know that these things were not anticipated when the substitute laws were passed. And it may have been that many of the abuses to which substitution has given rise were unforeseen or not duly estimated by Congress.

But laws were passed, and these laws permitted and authorized any able bodied person beyond the conscript age, to be received in place of any person within that age and liable to conscription, the condition of substitution being that the substitute himself should not be liable, for if liable he would himself be a principal, and called upon to do military duty on his own account.

Substitutes have generally turned out to be very poor soldiers, and a large proportion of them have been and probably are deserters. The principals are accused of taking advantage of the exemption obtained by the purchase of substitutes, to engage in speculation and extortion to the injury of the country and at the expense of those in service and to the ruin of their families.—This latter belief is strongly entertained in the army and it naturally gives rise to feelings of indignation against the parties who are suspected of acting in this unpatriotic manner, and of opposition to all laws in virtue of which they enjoy the opportunity of so acting.

The action of the House alluded to in the opening paragraph of this article, hasty and sweeping as it seems to us, has evidently, we think, been rushed through in obedience to, and by way of earnest propitiation of, this demand and feeling in the army. Put in the speculators—make some law that will reach the class that are about seeking whom they may devour, and so on.—Every way for strong measures, and the House went in a rong, and the Senate will probably also, as already intimated, put the matter through.

We are not quite so certain as some members of Congress seem to be in regard to the probable working of this measure. How many men will it put in the army? What will be its effect upon finance and business? May it not incur the danger of a conflict between the States and the Confederacy? Supposing it to be all perfectly defensible on the ground of justice, is it all equally advisable on the ground of expediency?—All things that are right are not politic, but all things that are wrong are impolitic—are opposed to true wisdom both in individuals and in States.

Nearly all the men that the law passed by the House can possibly bring into the ranks could, we think, have been secured by a law differently framed, and that would not have been justly liable to the imputation or even the suspicion of injustice or the violation of a contract or pledge expressed or implied. As the very condition of substitution is non-liability of the substitute, the condition no longer exists when such substitute becomes himself a principal; therefore it is evident that the liability of the original principal revives when he has no longer a substitute, or he evidently has not when the person who was the substitute becomes liable to duty, and a principal in his own person. This would at once reach a large proportion of those who have put in substitutes and it would bear on any others to cause a relative repudiation or vacation of their contracts. It is true that the President, the Secretary of War, and apparently the majority of Congress recognize no contract as existing between the government and the persons having substitutes; but whether there is or was really such a contract or not, one party at least *thought* there was, and it would be useless to deny that the construction now put upon the affair—the definition now given of the relation between the government and substituting parties, must and will have the effect, to a greater or less extent, of injuring the credit of the government, and impairing the faith now reposed in its promises, especially if, while demanding the principal, irrespective of the will of substitution, it yet recognizes and takes advantage of that act by retaining the substitute also in service. This latter feature shows worse and goes further to cast an air of doubt and suspicion upon the bill than any or all other features conjoined in it; especially so if no compensation or other indemnification is awarded to the principal. Of course it must be admitted that the substitute has nothing to complain of. He has received the stipulated consideration. It is only the principal that has any grievance, real or supposed, to complain of.

If the law had stopped with taking all who as substitutes had themselves become principals, and whose character as substitutes therefore had ceased to exist, and added thereto those who had substitute papers, but no substitutes in the army, it would have taken, we think, about nine out of every ten men that it can take under any law that it may pass, no matter how sweeping, and avoided features which are, to say the least, of very doubtful legality.

Governor Letcher, of Virginia, in his last message to the Legislature of that State, took strong ground against the principal features of this bill as foreshadowed in the President's Message. We think further opposition may be anticipated in other quarters. The *habeas corpus*, which is in turn the *Palladium* of liberty or the shield for obstructive factionists, will, we fear, be invoked in a vexatious spirit rather than from a pure desire for justice or a patriotic vindication of right. We fear serious and deplorable conflicts of jurisdiction between the Confederate authorities enforcing Confederate laws and the Executives and Judiciaries of at least some of the States. That such conflicts will be earnestly invoked and joyously hailed by certain unpatriotic parties, we can entertain no doubt.

A little reflection will readily suggest how, for the time being at least, this measure may incidently affect money matters by raising the price of gold. Without at all sanctioning or joining in the sweeping assertion that all who have put in substitutes have done so in order that they themselves might stay at home to engage in speculation, or the further assertion that all speculators are radically untrue to the country, it is evident that too many who have availed themselves of the privilege of substitution, have done so to engage in reckless, and, we fear, heartless speculation; and that too many speculators have lost all regard, if they ever had any, for the good of the country, caring only for themselves. Some of these are foreigners and some natives; some Jews and some Gentiles; some born North and some born South. Is it not to be apprehended that no small number will, in prospect of this bill, convert their Confederate securities—be the same notes, bonds or whatever else—into gold, exchange, or some other easily portable values, with the view of getting away out of the country, even if they should have to cross over into the enemy's lines, a thing which might be difficult to prevent when we take into account our long and disturbed frontier from the Gulf to the Potomac, and award to money and unscrupulous shrewdness the power and influence which, unfortunately, they are too well known to possess.

A telegram last week from Richmond gave some evidence that this was already beginning to be felt. It does not, we confess give a very flattering view of human nature, or a part of it, but if it exists it is requisite to take it into account in making an estimate of our situation.

We think there are sufficiently grave considerations involved to not only justify but demand a careful consideration by the same Senate of the probable workings and effects of the House Bill, before passing it in its present sweeping form.

### Blockade Goods and Homespuns.

We really think sometimes that mankind are apt to resemble a flock of sheep—in all jumping where one has jumped in the lead, or in following up an idea without much reflection, when once such an idea has got currency and seems to be popular.

Among other causes of high prices at all times is the excess of demand over supply. If this has its effect at any time, how much more so will the effect be apparent at a time like this, when, from causes apparent to all, the supply is greatly and steadily inadequate to the demand? At such a time one would be apt to think that any addition to the supply, from almost any source, would be hailed as a relief, and appreciated as a means of keeping prices within some limit. Even with the goods that are brought in through the blockade, the supply is still notoriously short. If none were brought in it would be still shorter.

The papers preach up the doctrine that everybody ought to wear homespun. We must think that if everyone wore homespun and nothing but homespun, many would have a very limited, and, indeed, wholly inadequate supply; while, by the pressing demand for that class of goods, the prices would go up to a figure higher than any yet reached for imported goods of anything like the same quality, and as will always happen, the resulting pressure and inconvenience would be most severely felt by persons of limited means. Those who can or do find money to purchase imported calicoes or other goods, would, we suppose, find means to get homespuns. Those who have been buying homespuns would find the market raised upon them by the enforced addition of a large number of additional buyers, while, at the same time, the supply could not reasonably be expected to increase, for the machinery of factories cannot be renewed, and must gradually be deteriorating, while the facilities for domestic manufacture—we mean literally *home* spinning and weaving cannot be sensibly extended, nor their product much enlarged.

If A is able and willing to pay six dollars a yard for calico and B is not, it is evidently to the interest of B that A should buy the calico, rather than that he should, by buying homespun, increase the demand for, and consequently the price of, homespun which B already finds barely within his means, if indeed it is so at all.

The fact is that much as has been said about blockade goods, we do not think that, upon the whole, they are so very much higher than domestics of anything like the same class. Of course we are not now speaking of silks, broadcloths and other such finery; and we have little hesitation in saying that were importation wholly stopped, or the use of imported goods wholly abandoned, domestic goods would soon go up, not only far higher than they now are, but also higher than imported goods have yet reached.

Of course there are other considerations connected with blockade-running, which we do not propose now to discuss, and it must be admitted that many of these considerations would go to impress us with the idea of its impolicy in so far as our currency is concerned; but be that as it may, we must raise our voice against the twaddling homilies about homespun that have become current through the press. Homespun is very good, and calico is very good, and almost anything to wear is very good and desirable about these times, and there is need for all. Let all buy according to what they feel able to pay for, and all will be better served than by trying to drive all to one class of articles, thus running even that up far beyond the reach of persons of limited means.

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Congress this week has so far done little or nothing. The communication to Congress, by a large number of the commanding officers of the army of Tennessee, is a document calculated to arrest grave attention. It will no doubt receive the consideration to which its importance entitles it.

We must presume that the term "communication" as applied to it is a mistake. The President alone can send in "communications," and he may have sent in a communication enclosing this military document which certainly is sweeping enough and startling enough in its character. What will be done—left undone or be overdone, remains to be seen. We think the probabilities are that matters will be rather over-done than otherwise. We confess that we do not like the form in which this last recommendation makes its appearance.

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AN UNHAPPY MAN—JOHN C. HEENAN, the Yankee champion, who lately got his face badly smashed, his body beat, and himself injured, and had to pay heavily for having it done, having lost his bet with TOM KING. But that was *sport*.

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DISABLED SOLDIERS who are competent to fill Posts in the Quartermaster's department, would do well to read the advertisement of Q. M. General A. R. LAWTON in this paper.

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THE enemy would appear to be making some change in their mode of attack at Charleston. Col. ELLIOTT, commanding at Fort Sumter, reports that the enemy has now but one light gun bearing upon the Fort.—How, or in what direction their new demonstration is to be made does not yet appear.

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The Asheville (N. C.) News, of the 24th instant, says that the Yankees lately in Clay and Cherokee counties, in this State, seem to have gone out at the same hole through which they came in, first doing, however, a considerable amount of mischief, pillaging, plundering and burning, Yankee-like. They robbed the sheriff of Clay county of all the money in his possession, and then destroyed all his papers. They destroyed all the corn and bacon that they couldn't eat. They passed down through Northern Georgia, threatening Athens and other towns, and on to (we suppose) Chattanooga.

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AT NEWBERN.—There is every reason to believe that the enemy is concentrating heavy reinforcements at Newbern, with what view has not yet appeared, though circumstances would indicate an extension of his lines and a probable advance on Kinston, threatening the Wilmington and Weldon Road, and consequently our line of communication. His lines now extend to Trenton on the West and White Oak River on the South. He probably contemplates extending them to Kinston on the one hand and New River on the other.

NEWS TO US.—Yankee Admiral Lee reports to the Navy Department at Washington, that during the past month, (the month of November,) but one vessel has run into Wilmington, and that "rebel statements to the contrary are simply fabrications to tempt speculators to try the experiment."

We have nothing to say. We guess the speculators keep the run of things for themselves, without caring much for "statements" from Admiral Lee "or any other man."

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INSURANCE.—Insure your life and property. See advertisement of Messrs HARRISS & HOWELL.

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GENERAL HOSPITAL No. 4,
WILMINGTON, December 30th, 1863.

MESSRS. FULTON & PRICE: Allow me, through your paper, to acknowledge the receipt of five gallons lime juice, a very acceptable donation from Captain Page, steamer Heroine.

Very respectfully,
THOS. R. MICKS,
Surgeon in Charge.

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### A CARD.

LUMBERTON, DEC. 26th, 1863.

MESSRS. EDITORS OF THE JOURNAL:—In the Fayetteville Observer and Wilmington Journal of a recent date, it has been made to appear directly or indirectly that I am personally a party to the refusal of Mr. Charles Ivey, Jr., to take Confederate money in satisfaction of an execution for debt against Mr. Spier Watters, of this County. It is also broadly hinted that my want of patriotism has not only led me to this refusal but to go further in keeping my son at home from fighting the battles of the South. Further it is insinuated that I am personally interested in pushing the sale of the property levied upon, for gold and silver.

For the information of the public I respectfully ask leave to make the following statement of the facts in the case:

First—I am in the habit of receiving and paying out Confederate funds at par value, both privately and officially, when not compelled, in the latter capacity, by the notification of the parties to the contrary. I always receive Confederate money in payment of debts due to myself, but invariably give preference to corn and meat, because like all non-producers in these war times I find them more digestible than Confederate notes. I would give the same preference to corn and meat over gold and silver.

Secondly—I have never refused to take Confederate money from Mr. Watters in payment of any interest which I may have in the present suit against him. So far as I am concerned I have been always willing, and am now, to give him a clear receipt, on the payment of Confederate, or any other current money.

Thirdly—With the exception of fees due me as Sheriff, and the boarding and lodging of the property levied on, and which is now in my possession, I have not the value of one cent of interest in the suit.

Fourthly—I have no son in the service, because I have none to send—Providence not having been so kind to me as to others in that respect.

Fifthly—I refused to take Confederate money in this case *officially as Sheriff*, not *personally* as a citizen, because I dare not act otherwise, the Legislature having failed to append to the Stay-law, any protection for the Sheriffs of the State in just such a contingency as the present case presents. And because I am, as the law now stands, compelled, when the Plaintiff refuses anything but a legal tender to satisfy his claim, to refuse, or pay the debt *myself*, which I am unable to do, or on the other hand, submit to assessment in heavy damages. The papers that have given publicity to the complaint against me, will confer a favor by publishing this card.

Very respectfully,
R. KING,
Sheriff of Robeson Co., N. C.

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### Unionists Converted to Secessionists.

A friend who has conversed lately with several late refugees from East Tennessee, learns from them that Federal outrages on Unionists and Disunionists, indiscriminately, have had a happy effect on the political sentiments of the former, and numbers have been purged of their Unionism, and hopefully converted to the Southern cause.

A Presbyterian elder at Cleveland, noted for his disloyalty to the South, anticipating protection to his person and property from his Yankee friends, hailed their advent with joy, but it was of short duration. In spite of his protestations of loyalty, and remonstrances against such treatment to a Union man, the Yankee robbers stripped his dwelling, barns, etc., of nearly everything valuable. He was well-to-do in the world and comfortably provided. The Yankees laughed at his professions of Unionism and his remonstrances, continued their plundering, and boasted that they were making a good thing of it. He was so outraged that it is said that he forgot his religion, and, in the bitterness of his soul, heaped curses upon them, and became a pretty fair Southern man.

Another Union man and his wife had been long remonstrating with a "rebel" son for joining the Confederate army; and persuading him to leave it, but without effect. Their houses were, likewise pillaged and they were cured of their devotion to "the glorious Union and the old flag," and the old woman told her Yankee friends," that she had been trying to get her son out of the "rebel army," but, now, she intended to persuade him to stay in it and kill as many Yankees as he could. These are but illustrations of a very general feeling among former tories.

Brownlow, while at Knoxville, announced himself an unconditional emancipationist, and got at loggerheads on this subject with John Williams, who has, or had, considerable negro property. Williams was at the head of a party who proposed to remonstrate with Lincoln against the inauguration of the emancipation policy in East Tennessee, [perhaps anywhere;] and they were denounced by Brownlow as Copperheads.

*Marietta Confederate.*

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### Important from Louisiana—The Mutiny at Fort Jackson Confirmed.

We had an interview this morning with a gentleman just through from the Trans-Mississippi Department, who brings confirmation of the report by telegraph of the mutiny at Fort Jackson, and the turning over the Fort to the Confederates confined there.

The intelligence was brought out by Capt. Louis J. Girard, Chief of Ordnance, on General Gardner's staff at Port Hudson, and James A. Fisher, Capt. 1st Tennessee Battalion, to whose thoughtful courtesy we are indebted for copies of the New Orleans Picayune and True Delta of Thursday evening.

These gentlemen succeeded in effecting their escape from New Orleans, and are rejoiced to be once in more "Dixie." They are expected to reach Mobile by to-morrow. They say that the news was not allowed to be published in the New Orleans papers, but that it was undoubtedly true.

The New Orleans papers sent are as usual barren of news; we may, however, at more leisure find something worth copying.

The gentleman who handed them to us says that the negroes in the Federal service at Natchez were becoming insubordinate, and that they had been taken off guard and white men put in their places, for fear they would follow the example of their sable brethren at Fort Jackson.

He also brought some very encouraging reports of movements in progress and projected, which are "contraband" for the present. If this information is reliable, we shall hear stirring news from the banks of the Mississippi before long.

We may mention here an important rumor—which we give for what it is worth—that a French corvette had sunk a Federal gunboat near the mouth of the Rio Grande. The gunboat overhauled and fired into a schooner loaded with cotton, sailing under the French flag. The corvette resented the affront, and fired into and sunk the offending gunboat.

P. S.—Since the above information was received, we have another dispatch confirming the news published yesterday, and giving more particulars of the affair. It would appear from this that the Federals had not retaken the Fort on the 14th, it having been taken on the 9th. We have also reports of an engagement progressing between Banks and Taylor at or near New Iberia.—*Mobile Register, 23d.*

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MEXICO.—The latest advices from Mexico are not very favorable to the National cause:

Queretaro, the capital of the State of that name was occupied by Gen. Mejia, in the interest of the French, on the 15th of November, and Mejia, with the French General Donal, was to advance upon San Louis de Potosi, the present seat of the National Government, an important city in the State of Michoacan. Gen. Bazaine was marching upon Guanajuato, the capital of the State of which Doblado is Govenor, and anticipated an easy conquest, and the city of Guadalajara was besieged by the Mexican allies of the French. It is also reported that Vidaurri, one of the ablest leaders of the Liberal party, and at present Govenor of the States of Nuevo Leon and Coahuila, has gone over to the French. Gen. Comonfort, the best and most reliable General in the Mexican service, is dead, and his loss will be severely felt. A brisk guerilla war is maintained against the invaders; but that will never turn them aside from their purpose of conquest. Altogether, the prospect for Mexico is sad, and that for the French very good.

### From the Petersburg Express.

#### Governor Letcher's Views and Position, Before the War.

The Richmond Whig publishes a lengthy correspondence between the Rev. L. P. Clover, of Springfield, Ill., (formerly of Lexington, Va.) and Governor Letcher, previous to the war. We present one of the letters of the latter gentleman, defining his views on public affairs at that early period:

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA,
Dec. 25, 1860.

MY DEAR SIR:—I received your letter of the 20th instant this morning, and though much pressed with official business, I feel it to be a duty to reply at once.

I am not dissatisfied with your course in exhibiting my letter to Mr. Lincoln. In a time like this, when the Government is falling to pieces, and a financial storm, which threatens ruin and bankruptcy, is raging around us, I weigh my words well before they are placed on paper. It is criminal in any man to conceal or misrepresent the truth, when our country is in the throes of revolution. Whatever I write to you, will be what I religiously believe to be true.

I regard the Government now as doomed, beyond a contingency, to destruction. Is it not melancholy to think, that this noble fabric, reared by the wisdom and patriotism of our revolutionary fathers, is to be destroyed, merely because the people of eighteen States hate a domestic institution which exists in the other fifteen? Yet so it is, and while we deplore it, nothing but Divine Providence can avert the result.

We have not the wisdom, the prudence and the patriotism to reconstruct the fabric as it came to us. We shall get it again when "the sun shall go back to the dial of Ahaz."

"When earth's cities have no sound or tread,
"When ships are drifting with the dead,
"To shores where all is dumb."

I have lost all hope, as I see no disposition in the free States to adjust the controversy. We have just heard from Washington that the Republicans have presented their ultimatum, and I say to you, in sincerity and sorrow, that it will never be assented to. I believe ninety-nine men out of every hundred in Virginia will repudiate it with scorn. Conservative as I am, and laboring as I have been for months to secure an adjustment, before I will assent to that proposition, I will welcome civil war with all its horrors. It would be dishonorable in the South to accept it, and my motto is, "death before dishonor."

As the Executive of Virginia, I feel the responsibility of my position, and trust I have due appreciation of it. I am now directing all my efforts to prepare her for the sure protection of her honor, her rights and her institutions. I have succeeded in getting my military preparations in a very satisfactory condition. We have now (and every day adds to the number) 24 companies of artillery (armed partly with the improved rifle cannon,) 73 companies of cavalry, 103 companies of infantry, and 101 companies of riflemen. These volunteer companies embrace about 19,700 men; all in uniform and well drilled besides the militia of the line, 180,000 strong. As you are aware, we have 25,000 stand of arms at Lexington, and 20,000 in the arsenal here, besides the arms in the hands of the volunteers of the State. We can, if necessary, arm efficiently at this time 60,000 men. I have been anticipating the present condition of public affairs for more than a year, and hence it was that last January we directed our armory to be refitted and put into operation. This is now going on, and we shall have one of the finest and most efficient in the country. I give these facts because, as you were once a resident of Virginia, I know they will interest you, and convince you of the state of feeling here. I do not design or desire that Mr. Lincoln shall be apprized of these facts, as he might suppose from the fact that I knew he had seen my previous letter, that they were designed to operate upon him or his policy.

My belief is that Mr. Lincoln will never be inaugurated. I would not to-day occupy his position for the world. The reflection that my election has caused the dissolution of the Union (whether I was to blame or not) would drive me mad. The South regards him as one of the most vindictive and unscrupulous of her enemies—as one of the Giddings school of Abolitionists, who recognize negro equality with the white race, who would rejoice to see Southern women sacrificed to the brutal passions of the negro. So regarding him and his associate Hamlin, can any man wonder that Southern blood boils with indignation? What Southern husband or father would live under a Government administered by such men unless by compulsion? Any attempt at compulsion will be repelled and resisted by a united South.

I am glad you speak well of him in your letter; but, my dear sir, his record has made its impression up on the Southern mind, and there is no probability that it will be erased before the 4th of March.

My regard to Mrs. C. and the regards of my wife to yourself and her.

In haste
I am, truly, your friend,
Signed JOHN LETCHER.

Rev. J. L. Clover, Springfield, Ills.

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### Babylon.

A writer in "Blackwood" paints the following picture of the desolation which surrounds and enshrouds the once mighty Babylonian empire:

In the distance, high above the plain, loomed a great mound of earth. On both sides of us lay what looked like long parallel ranges of hills. These lines are pronounced to be the remains of those canals that once conducted the waters of the Euphrates over the length and breadth of ancient Babylonia. What mighty canals must they have been, that still showed, under the roll of centuries, such substantial traces! Now not so much as a drop of water—no, not even a drop of heaven's pearly dew—ever glistens where once ships must have navigated! These mighty banks that carried fertility to every corner of the ancient kingdom, are now mere useless, sightless mounds.

No morning mist, moistening the thirsty earth, ever hangs over them. No rain clouds ever shadow them, tempering the rays of a fierce daily returning sun.—The end of her that "dwelleth upon many waters," has been brought only too surely. The awful prophecies had been fulfilled, and desolation, in all its nakedness, in all its dreariness, was around us. After riding some two hours, we arrived at the foot of the great mound that we had seen in the morning. We dismounted and scrambled to the top, for we had even arrived at the ruins of Babylon; and this great mound of earth that we were on was the grave of the golden city.

I believe from the summit, raised some hundred feet above the plain, the walls of the ancient city may be traced. But a hot wind driving burning sand and the impalpable dust of ages into the pores of our skins, made every effort to open an eye so terribly painful that we gave up the idea in despair of either tracing walls, or indeed looking about us much anywhere.

I remember seeing, away to the West, lines of willows, and a silver thread, winding away into distance; and, nearer, some unsightly base mounds, looking as if volcanic fire had been at work underneath the smooth surface of the plain, and had thrown these mounds up in the spirit of pure mischief. That silver thread was our first glimpse of the waters of the Euphrates, and the mounds of all that remained of the once beatiful hanging gardens of Babylon; at least so conjecture of men of research has accounted for them. But so completely have the prophecies been fulfilled—so completely has the name and the remnant been cut off of all pertaining to the once mighty city, that even the great hill on which we were standing is only by conjecture supposed to be the ruin of some great building or royal palace that stood within the walls—possibly the palace of Semiramis.

We descended from the great mounds, and made for the lesser mounds which are supposed to be on the site of the hanging gardens of Nitecris and Semiramis. In one spot—the only thing we saw in the shape of a building in a state of ruin—was a mass of vitrified brickwork piercing the old soil and debris of centuries, angle upwards. The bricks were square, of large size, and beautiful make; the angle of some clear and sharp, as if the brick had but left the kiln yesterday instead of nearly twice two thousand years ago. Turning into a little hollow way between the mounds, we came suddenly upon the colossal stone lion. Time with his leaden hands had knocked away all the sharp angles of the statue. The features of the lion are completely obliterated, as are also those of the prostrate form that lies so utterly and so wholly human, beneath the upraised paw of the king of beasts.

The group presents itself in the eye, owing to the wear of old Times, much in the appearance of those vast blocks of Carrara marble, which the bold chisel of Michael Angelo struck into, and then, at the point that the shapeless marble had begun to assume the merest "abozz" of the great sculptor's idea, the block was suddenly abandoned and left as a wonder and a puzzle to the future ages, so does this group of the lion and the man now bear an unfinished, unwrought appearance; but you cannot look at it a moment and not instantly avow the majesty and grandeur of the idea that once lay there so mightily embodied. This dark colossal statue which may once have stood under the gorgeous roof of a temple, and before which the queenly Semiramis, proud and supremely beautiful, may once have bowed, stand now canopied by the grandest of canopies certainly—high Heaven—but never noticed but by the winds that sweeps moaning over it, and the jackass yell around as they hold high revel over the bones of some camel that has been good enough to die in the vicinity.

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### A YANKEE REVIEW OF WHAT THE ABOLITIONISTS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED.

Last week, says the Richmond Dispatch, the Abolitionists held jubilees in New York and Philadelphia. The Tribune claims for them that they elected Lincoln in 1860, and that "posterity will do them justice."—That paper, however, is entirely too modest. The Abolitionists have done a good deal more than elect the Gorilla, and in the matter of doing them justice we will anticipate posterity a little, and copy the following from the New York Herald of Saturday last:

In 1860, the American Abolitionists, pure and simple, numbered about one hundred thousand persons.—In 1840, when they ran Mr. Birney for President, the Abolitionists polled seven thousand votes. In 1844, with the same candidate, they polled sixty-two thousand votes. In 1848, they intermingled with the Free-soilers, and gave Van Buren three hundred thousand votes. From that time forth the pure Abolition vote is so mixed up with the Free-soil vote and the Republican vote that we cannot get at it with much accuracy. Still, we believe that one hundred thousand is a fair estimate of the number of true, radical Abolitionists who have followed the flag of Garrison and Phillips, and who are entitled to share in the credit of the Abolition work, and in the glory which now crowns their labor. In this number we include all such old women as Greeley, and such young women as Tilton.

What these one hundred thousand Abolitionists have accomplished may be stated in a very few words. They have accomplished the present war. They have worked for it thirty years, and here it is. They have wrecked a powerful, peaceful and happy country. They have arrayed brother against brother, father against son, children against parents. They have filled the land with widows and orphans. They have transformed the country into a vast graveyard. They have shed an ocean of blood and squandered mountains of money. They have made the air heavy with the shrieks of the wounded, the groans of the dying and the lamentations of the mourners. They have devastated the fields and plantations of the South and destroyed the commerce of the North.

They have given a check to the progress of civilization and Democratic institutions from which it will take years to recover. All this they have accomplished in thirty years. One hundred thousand fiends let loose from the lowest hell and inspired by the most infernal malice could not have accomplished more mischief in the same space of time. If this be anything to rejoice over let the Abolitionists rejoice. If they desire to raise a monument to perpetuate the remembrance of their triumphs, our battle fields will furnish them with enough human skulls for a pyramid, and Wendell Phillips or Beecher would be only too happy to deliver the address at the laying of the corner skull.

During this abolition war at least one hundred thousand men have been killed, four hundred thousand have been disabled for life; thus half a million have been subjected to death, wounds, and to sickness worse than wounds, in the armies of both sides. What amount of human misery has occurred beyond and behind the armies we shall not now inquire. The amount of property destroyed during the war may be roughly estimated at five hundred millions of dollars. The injury inflicted upon our commerce and carrying trade may be stated at one hundred millions of dollars. This is rather under than above the mark; for the rebel Maffit asserts that he alone has destroyed eleven millions of dollars worth of ships and cargoes, and Semmes has certainly destroyed much more.

The war debt of the North and South amounts to about five thousand millions of dollars. If the war ends by the abolition of slavery we shall have to keep a standing army of a hundred thousand men, and support two or three millions of indignant negroes for several years. But we will leave that probability out of the account, and will also restrain from estimating the millions and billions of dollars which the now impeded industry of this country would have produced had not the Abolitionists caused this war.

We wish to confine ourselves to facts and figures of indisputable authenticity. And what do these facts and figures show? Estimating the white population of the United States in 1860 at twenty-six millions—and this is within a few hundreds of the official figures—we find that the Abolitionists have been instrumental in causing the death of one man out of two hundred and sixty people, and the crippling or otherwise disabling one man out of every fifty-two people. Also, that the Abolitionists have caused the destruction of property valued at six hundred millions of dollars, and a war expenditure of about five thousand millions. If these are things to be proud of, let the Abolitionists hold a perpetual jubilee.

Taking the above statistics as a basis, a very simple process of arithmetic will demonstrate that each one of our one hundred thousand Abolitionists has caused the death of one man and the life-long disability of four men, and has already cost the country forty six thousand dollars. What are the cruelties and the expences of slavery when compared to this? Its very evident, however, that the loss of life and limb and money during this war should not be so equally divided among our one hundred thousand fanatics.

Individual Abolitionists have been more or less guilty according to their opportunities and their influence. Garrison, for example, should have more than one dead man, four wounded and crippled men, and fifty six thousand dollars worth of destroyed property set down to his account. Wendell Phillips is in the same case.—Greeley has probably caused the death of at least a thousand men, and the remainder of the injury which he has inflicted upon the nation and upon humanity must be increased in proportion. The same remark will apply to Beecher, Cheever, Tilton, and such prominent Abolitionists. Sumner, Wilson, Chandler and other Abolition politicians have even a larger share for which to answer.

This sad account will certainly have to be settled some day—not in this world, perhaps, but certainly in the next. Then, if the Abolitionists can find any food for gladness in those facts, it will be when they enter Hades and discover that the worst fiends receive them with respect, and that Satan, Mephistopheles, Belzebub, Moloch and the other devils vacate their thrones to offer the new comers all the insignia of pre eminence in evil. The jubiles in Philadelphia will be nothing in comparison to this grand satanic reception.

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THE LADY REBELS OF POLAND.—The Russian Invalid gives the following picturesque account of the part played by the Polish ladies in the insurrection:

"The Polish ladies chiefly aid the insurrection in the secret retreat of the domestic heart and the hospitals. They stimulate the courage of the men in the bosom of their families; they excite the martial ardor of sons, husbands and lovers; they pass sleepless nights by the pillows of the agonized and dying, of whom they have no other knowledge than that of wounds which they received in the sacred cause of their country. All the combined resources of their feminine seductiveness, of their persistent affection, and of their inexhaustible patriotism, are employed in acts of heroic devotion and self-abnegation. They spend long hours in the prison court-yard, waiting permission to enter the cells and prisons. Wherever a patriot has been the victim of persecution, or struck down in battle, Polish women are the first to offer consolation and assistance. Their prompt and daring intelligence, joined to great natural tact, makes them powerful auxiliaries of the insurrection. We can positively assert that were it not for the impulse and concurrence of the Polish women the movement would not have lasted so long. It is the women who make the most effective and daring spies—who are the safest agents for communicating important information to the insurgents. The national government confides to them the most difficult mission, and has never had occasion to repent of the confidence so bestowed. Their ready invention suggests at critical moments the most ingenious combinations, which are afterwards carried out by the bold and energetic hands of the men. At every turn we have to deal with Polish women and priests, and this is a power which we must take into account."

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THE WIFE OF THE PRESIDENT.—The correspondent at Baltimore of the New York Herald has received news directly from Richmond. The following is one of the paragraphs:

Mrs. Jeff. Davis, the wife of the President (as she is called in Richmond,) dresses very plainly, and usually walks when she goes out. When she does ride, it is in a plain carriage, drawn by two horses and driven by a negro, who is by far the most consequential personage of the two. She has many rich dresses, and some superb articles of jewelry sent her by the friends of Jeff. Davis in Europe, but these she seldom wears, except upon state occasions. She very rarely goes to places of amusement, but is always seen with her husband at church. The latter has been for more than a year a devout Episcopalian, and his friends say a sincere Christian.

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NOT SO BAD.—The citizens of Richmond, it is said, are going to present Gen. Hood with a new leg. That part of him, at least, will be a *fair hood*.

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### What is the Use?

What is the use of trimming a lamp
If you never intend to light it?
What is the use of grappling a wrong
If you never intend to fight it?

What is the use of removing your hat
If you do not intend to tarry?
What is the use of wooing a maid
If you never intend to marry?

What is the use of buying a coat
If you never intend to wear it?
What is the use of a house for two
If you never intend to share it?

What is the use of gathering gold
If you never intend to keep it?
What is the use of planting a field
If you never intend to reap it?

What is the use of buying a book
If you never intend to read it?
What is the use of a cradle to rock
If you never intend to need it!

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### Secret Gladness.

Each heart hath its own secret gladness,
Forever gushing the while,
Leaving no traces of sadness,
And lighting the soul with a smile;
'Tis a streamlet of happiness gliding,
Beside the dark waters of life,
Where earth's sweetest flowers confiding,
Smile brightly 'mid sorrows and strife.

Was there a pass life so saddened'd
That no gleam of affection there lay?
Is there ever a present so gladden'd
With the hope of a sunnier day?
Then weep not that life hath its showers,
The sunlight will brighten again,
The flowers of earth yield more fragrance,
When dew'd by the soft summer rain.

When the shadows of day have descended
O! is there no twilight within,
Where the hues of affection are blended
To shield from the power of sin?
When nature's sweet music is pealing,
Its anthems of beauty and rest,
New thoughts and new treasures revealing,
O, welcome the beautiful guest.

Though dark be the clouds that hang o'er us,
Though no silver bright lining we see,
O, believe that the future before us
Has its pleasures for you and for me,
Then up thou sad heart and be doing,
Gird on the bright armor of love,
Each way mark of duty reviewing,
Will lead the still nearer above.

Though the flowers of earth are still fading
And the bright leaves lie withered and sere,
Though thoughts of the past are still shading
Our dreams of affection so dear;
Though storms in their fury are raging,
And no rainbow of promise we see—
Still the angel of Hope is engaging
Its pleasures for you and for me.

MIGNIONETTE.

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From Liverpool (Eng.) Mercury, of the 14th Nov

### POLAND.

In Warsaw's wretched city,
Two sisters to be hung—
A melancholy ditty
To be said or sung.

Two women to be strangled!
Europe, standing by,
Sees their boddies mangled,
Lifts no voice on high!

Brave and warlike nation
Vents its fiendish spite:
A worthy demonstration—
A noble gallant sigh!

In grand array of battle
Your standard quick unfurls,
Bayonets fix, and rattle
Round—two beauteous girls

All ready for the hanging
Bullet, steel, and lead,
Brave fellows at the hanging
To see—two sisters dead!

See, Kosciusko's spirit
Rising from the tomb!
His soul these girls inherit—
Nobly meet their doom.

Are they *men* in Russia?
Are there *women* there?
An empire's strength—to crush a
Feeble, girlish pair!

Brave and gallant nation—
Two sisters to be hung:
No voice in condemnation,
No scabbard high is flung.

Revelling in slaughters,
Europe's deepd sgrace,
Striking Poland's daughters—
What a manly race!

Aghast and craven-hearted
England shanes the Main;
Sons and mothers parted
Women rudely slain.

Lovely ladies banished,
Marched in felon's dress;
Hope forever vanished,
None to see or bless.

Sublime, chivalrous nation!
Distant shadows loom—
A blot upon creation,
Vengeance sure will come.

Time was in England's pages
Chivalry would fly,
And England's sons and sages
Strove for beauty's sigh.

Are we backward streaming
In the lapse of time,
Idly gazing—dreaming
'Midst triumphant crime?

Sons of England forward!
Avenge these sisters' death,
Smite these Northern cowards—
Stay not your panting breath!

Britons, rise, nor tremble—
Youth and beauty calls;
Let not your words dissemble—
A bleeding nation falls!

Think of warsaw's city,
Two sisters to be hung!
No heart to help or pity—
The knell of Freedom rung.

W. G. H.

*West Villa, St. Domingo Vale, Everton.*

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### "PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S BROKEN OATH."

Under this expressive head, the truth of which none can deny, the New York World says, in the course of an editorial:

Mr. Lincoln had already been false to his oath. It was not strange, therefore, that he should be false again. Abolition was, he declared, and declared falsely, as he knew, and as events proved, a military necessity.—Now, if we believe him, it is a reconstructive necessity. The pretence is a sham. We respect Mr. Lincoln's intellect too highly not to believe that he knows it to be a sham. To make abolition condition precedent is not to suggest a feasible mode of reconstruction; it is to absolutely prevent reconstruction. While Mr. Lincoln continues in office the war, then, will go on, and reconstruction and union will not be had. There is not the slightest hope now of wisdom, or patriotism, or a sacrifice of malignant fanatical partizanship from the party in power. The last hope is extinguished. The only hope of the country that remains is in the uniting together of every conservative, Union loving citizen of the country in a cordial co-operation for the expulsion of the fanatics who have nearly ruined the nation, and the restoration of the Union by and under the Constitution.

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CAVALRY.—The numerous dashes of the Federal cavalry, from Stoneman's raid to Averill's are replete with instruction, which we have strangely failed to lay to heart, says the *Examiner*. Picket-post after picket-post had been surprised or evaded, and instead of inflicting exemplary punishment on the guilty parties, we content ourselves with adding another chapter to the Confederate Book of Lamentations; and there is an end of it. The eyes and ears of our army are full of mucus and wax, and no systematic effort is made to cleanse those valuable organs—"no wise physician," says an ancient poet, "makes use of inc

# TELEGRAPHIC

Reports of the Press Association

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

FROM BRISTOL.

BRISTOL, Dec. 28, 1863.

The news from the front is unimportant. Twenty one prisoners, captured by our cavalry at Mulberry Gap, have arrived here. Five hundred Yankee prisoners will be shipped to Richmond to-night.

FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

ORANGE C. H., Dec. 28th, 1863.

The force of infantry which the enemy advanced as far as Mitchell's station on Tuesday evening last, is evidently intended to do picket duty, and relieve the cavalry.

A heavy rain has been falling since Saturday. To-night the Rapidan is much swollen and the roads are in a bad condition. Blankets are needed for the soldiers.

THE YANKEE CONGRESS—FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 28, 1863.

In the Yankee Congress Mr. Smith, of Kentucky submitted resolutions in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war until the constitution and laws were enforced in all parts of the United States, and to that end opposing any armistice indicating a proposition of peace from any quarter; adopted by a vote of 94 to 64.

The Senate passed the House bill appropriating $300,000 for bounties to volunteers.

Congress has not agreed even on the 5th January.

Lieutenant has been appointed to the command of the Department of Mexico.

Farragut arrived in New York on the 26th.

Telegrams from New Orleans say that the negro mutiny at Fort Jackson on the 5th did not take place. No persons were injured.

One hundred and twenty-five of Averill's raiders have been received at the Libby prison.

Judge Ould, in a letter to Hon. Schuyler Colfax, disclaims for himself respect requesting that the Confederate authorities refuse to treat with Butler as the agent of Exchange. He will, therefore, not now be recognized in that character.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Dec. 29th, 1863.

Commissioner Ould sets down 20 Yankees to every Southerner for the Confederates brought to City Point, but intimates that he is willing to do liberally. Grant refuses to hold communication with Gen. Butler, and declines to make any further efforts at a partial exchange.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Dec. 29, 1863.

In the Senate a bill was passed to repeal the law allowing Surgeons in Hospitals to grant furloughs and discharges. At an early hour the Senate went into executive session, after which it adjourned, pending the bill to put those into the army who have furnished substitutes, which was not taken up.

In the House a communication addressed to Congress, and signed by a large number of the commanding officers of the army of Tennessee, was presented and read, urging the prompt enactment of measures to avert disorders omnipotent for our destruction, which may become incurable in thirty days. In the communication they give it as their opinion that it is essential to retain during the war the troops now in service, and to place in service immediately for the same term all white males between eighteen and fifty years, able to perform any kind of military duty; to authorize the President in his discretion to place in the service for the same term all between fifteen and eighteen and fifty and sixty; to prohibit substitutes; to prohibit exemptions, except for civil officers; to prohibit discharges, except in cases of permanent disability, from any kind of duty; to prohibit furloughs, except under rules of universal application, based on the length of service and meritorious conduct; to prohibit, as far as possible, able bodied officers and soldiers being assigned to post, hospital or other interior duty, and to place able bodied negroes in the service as cooks, laborers, &c. They also suggest dissatisfaction on account of short rations and the depreciated currency; re-organizing the army may be obviated by bounties to old troops and an increase of the pay and commutation to put salted meat for rations not issued, and allowing rations to officers. This document is signed by Generals Hardee, Cleatham, Stevenson, Breckenridge, Brown, Pettus, Reynolds and Jackson; with some slight reservations and dissents by Generals Cleburne Hindman, Lewis, Lowry, Anderson, Manigault, Vaughan, Quarles, Finley, Bate, Stewart, Strahl and Cayton, and several Colonels commanding brigades. The reading of this document produced considerable excitement. Mr. Foote declared that the adoption of the measures recommended, will be a step towards a military despotism, with the present administration at its head. He would be very seriously opposed. If a dictator became a necessity, he favors the placing that power in the hands of Gen. Lee, a man influenced by no narrow views or prejudices, but a patriot of enlarged and liberal ideas, with a mind of the order of Washington. The matter was referred to the military committee. A motion to reconsider the bill passed by the House on Wednesday last to prohibit the circulation of Yankee currency was voted down by forty-eight to five. The attendance in both houses is still thin. The House adjourned without a quorum.

From the Richmond Sentinel.

## The two Republics, and their Presidents.

BY JOHN SCOTT.

A great lesson, once taught by history, is never lost sight of, but is repeated through the centuries. Every mighty movement, upheaving the surface of the political world, has its representative men, who are so identified with it, that the purity or defects of the system come, in time, to be confounded with the purity or corruption of its supporters. The world soon learns to connect men and principles together, and does not require much persuasion to believe that it would be as hard for a corrupt man to advocate good measures as it would be for a good man to support bad ones. And the reason of this is evident, if the theory itself be not altogether correct. Men are more apt, as a general thing, to fix their memories upon the names associated with any particular era in the history of the world than upon the principles which might have been vindicated by it. Every school boy has heard of Oliver Cromwell and Geo. Washington. But how many men can there be found in a day's search, who could speak intelligently of the conflict between Cavalier and Roundhead, or of the political causes which led to our first Revolution? There is probably no clever schoolgirl who has passed beyond the rudiments of history, who does not remember to have read of Queen Elizabeth and Charlotte Corday; but ask the generality of readers what was the policy of Elizabeth, and in what the real glory of Charlotte consisted, and it would doubtless appear that history for them is a mere jingle of names, and not, as Bacon philosophically calls it, "an evolution of principles." When persons of this class wish to present to their minds, in the strongest light, the atrocities of the French Revolution, they recal Robespierre and Marat; and they fancy that they have compassed those stormy days in which Europe was convulsed by the power of the mad, and thrones toppled and old institutions passed away, when they have mentioned the name of the great Emperor.

In this momentous period of our career as a people, we are not unwilling, we confess, to see what, for want of a better name, we will call this metonymic judgment—uncertain though it may be in many cases—passed upon our struggle. The men at the head of the two governments have characters as clearly drawn as any who have stood at the helm of States and guided the course of great movements. The antagonism between the North and South—between the steadfast devotion to principle of the one and the cowardly craft and recklessness of the other—are not more strongly marked than the dissimilarity existing between their Presidents. Cromwell, with his cant of humility and his real overgrown confidence in himself, and his contempt of all other authority, was no bad representative of the fanatics who beat back their king's battalions at Naseby and Marston Moor; reviled old institutions that had been good enough for their fathers, and thanked God they were better than Charles Stuart and his band of Belial. The Chiefs of the Mountain, with their besotted hatred of religion and order, and their utter incapacity to grasp the necessities of the movement in which they were engaged, were fit to be the leaders of a mob, who had commenced a revolution without adequate cause, and who, in becoming patriots, showed but little difficulty in learning to be bloodhounds. But coolly as these were types of the factions for whom they acted, it is doubtful whether there ever lived rulers who have combined in themselves so many of the elements of the peoples whom they represent, as Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln.

There are many reasons why we of the South should be gratified that such is the case. All of us feel that the separation between the two sections is eternal, because it is based upon complete antagonism in those elements which foster the union of States. Even when associated under the same government, and when the genius of success was thrown around the administration of their common affairs, and the Union, as an abstract fact, speaking grandly of unlimited power and the peopling of vast principalities, had reduced many spirits to conservatism who felt the necessity of dissolution; the seeds of decay were generated in the very character of the two peoples, and the foundations of the Government were already crumbling into ruins. The crash came at last, when the whole of the stupendous deception that had been foisted upon the world as Union was laid bare; and men learned, for the first time, to separate from the mass that which had constituted the conservative element in the unnatural connection—had kept society within legitimate bounds—had given validity to the decrees of the Constitution—had enforced justice in the administration of Government—had strengthened religion and fortified public morality.

We left the compact; and then, with the suddenness of a change in the slides of a theatre, came that system of social and political ethics which has since excited the astonishment of every thinking mind, and has presented to the world the dreary spectacle of a people who had once commanded their respect yielding to a debasement scarcely paralleled in the history of nations, and showing themselves reckless of the faith of compacts, deaf to the appeals of justice, servile without patriotism, and arrogant without courage. This apparently sudden transition has not surprised us who have been familiar with the character of our enemies for many years. But it has fallen strangely upon the nations of Europe. In the midst of a marvelous progress, with a common flag, representing a common nationality, floating on every sea and in every port, and with a commerce unconnected, apparently, with any section, testifying to the unity of an enterprising and ingenious people; it was impossible for them to appreciate upon how tottering a foundation rested, in reality, the stately weight of so much splendor and so much glory.

The restrictive and unjust legislation—the gradual encroachment of the Anti-Constitutionalists—the struggles for vested rights upon the floor of the two houses of Congress, and those gloomy days immediately preceding the disruption of the great Republic, when our demands for redress were laughed at, as the last efforts of a defeated faction, were regarded by European statesmen as nothing more serious than the license in political affairs, universally allowed by the nature of our institutions. The startling declarations of certain politicians with reference to the Constitution, they considered as the senseless ravings of demagogues—not, as they were in reality, the outward expression of perverse doctrines that had infected one half of the people of the United States. They are wiser now, and have found that this perverseness of opinion is not confined to inferior men without reputation, but permeates through the whole North—blasting equally the Executive, the Cabinet, the Pulpit, the Press and the People. And they have discovered that what they conceived to be a local sore is a universal taint, and that what appeared to be the wildness of a few ill-regulated minds, comprises, in reality, the most practical evidences of wisdom which the statesmen of the North have shown themselves capable of attaining.

With the South, outside of the technical position in which secession has placed her, there can be said to have been no revolution whatever. Our Government, and the laws under which it is administered are practically the same. Our social system is the same. Our character as a people, and our views of political and moral right, have undergone no change. Indeed, the most stupendous movement ever undertaken by any people has been executed with disturbances no greater than those which have usually attended a Presidential election. But it is with the North, although the title of their government has remained unchanged, that this revolution has been most severely felt. Everything that goes to make up national character has been violently altered. Just as France, during the days of the Revolution, was flooded with an inundation of false and blasphemous doctrines, so the North is now swarming with strange theories, subversive of all social order—corruptive of popular purity—mocking at the most sacred truths of religion, and which could have been produced only among a people who have lost sight of the first elements of reason and justice.

From the Charleston Courier.

### Large Fire.

At an early hour Friday morning, fire broke out in the three story brick building North side of Broad street, near Church, owned by and adjoining the large Grocery store of Messrs. Klinck, Wickenberg & Co. The premises, with the exception of the second story, was formerly occupied by Mr. A. J. Burke, as a printing establishment. The second story was used by J. B Campbell and J. Nathans, Esq'rs., as Law offices.—The fire communicated to the adjoining building on the East, the lower story formerly kept by B. Ford as a boot and shoe store, and the upper stories as Law offices by Messrs. Brown & Porter, and others. The premises were owned by Dr. Jos. S. Inglesby. These two buildings were entirely consumed.

During the progress of this fire another was discovered at the Southwest corner of Church-street and St. Michael's alley, which destroyed a range of four very old buildings, besides the Charleston Cotton Press, the kitchen and out buildings attached to the old bathing establishment on Church street; also the building occupied by the German Turner's Association as a Hall, situated in the rear, between Church and Meeting street, belonging to Mr. J. J. McLean.

The house of Mrs. Ann M. Browne, No. 43 Tradd street, sustained some damage by the sparks igniting and burning the roof.

The residence of Mr. A J. Burke, No. 39 Tradd-street, also took fire several times, but was extinguished without material damage.

A house on the North side of Tradd-street, near Meeting, was also on fire, but it was extinguished with trifling damage.

The loss by fire is estimated at a moderate calculation at between one hundred and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The most serious is the Cotton Press owned by Mr. Wm. H. Walker, who also owned the house adjoining which was consumed. The other three buildings in the range mentioned above, were the property respectively of Wm. Callaham, Mrs. Lovegreen and J. Pezpanski.

The property known as the bathing establishment, formerly occupied by Mrs. Bear, belonged to Mr. Daniel Horlbeck. We have not been able to learn the amount of loss covered by insurance.

The alarm was first given by Captain Hale, of the Observatory, but from some mistake the bell was not rung or the alarm extended for fully three quarters of an hour afterwards, in consequence of which some of the engines arrived at the place without sufficient force to work them. Capt. W. J. Gayer, Provost Marshal, who was in attendance, immediately sent and obtained the assistance of a detachment of men from Col. Roberts' regiment of reserves, and also dispatched a messenger to Col. Rhett, who repaired to the spot, and ordered a detail of men from the First S. C. Regular Artillery. These, together with the firemen, succeeded in checking the progress of the fire, and preventing what it was apprehended would be an extensive conflagration.

Notwithstanding the great danger to which they were exposed, the firemen and military kept to their work until the fire had been subdued, and too much praise cannot be awarded to Mr. E. FOURGEAUD, Acting Chief, and others having the direction of affairs.—Some few casualties occurred from the falling of a portion of the walls in Broad street, and flying bricks.

The following are the names of those injured:

*German Fire Engine Company*—John Doscher, severely; Chas. Berger and Henry Funk, slightly.

*Charleston Fire Company*—T. Murray, wounded in the leg.

Private T. Leddy, of the police, wounded in the leg, slight.

*Captain Powel's Company of Reserves*—Sergt. W. P. McClimans, slight, in the arm; Privates Elijah Bellinger, thigh, severe; Thomas Brown, hip and neck, severe; Walker Meadows, thigh, severe.

The origin of the fire has not as yet been positively ascertained, but it is generally attributed to incendiarism. Captain HALE reports distinctly seeing a man applying a torch to the German Turner's Hall, and notified the police to that effect.

[From Punch.]

### Shakespeare and his Showmen.

Next year, we all know, will be the Shakespeare Tercentenary; and the Stratford upon Avonites of course will be desirous to attract as many visitors as may be to their town. What interesting objects are there treasured up for inspection may be imagined from a statement in the Stratford Chronicle, wherein it is alleged concerning Shakespeare's house and birthplace that:

"This national property has recently undergone considerable improvement, both in the house and the garden that surround it. The garden in which the house stands is laid out and planted with trees and shrubs, all of which have a Shakespearean association, by being selected from those mentioned by the dramatist in his works."

Of course the flowers and herbs and fruit bushes have been similarly selected. What a delightful treat it would be to come into the garden, Maud, with somebody or other who was fond of quoting Shakespeare, and to hear him cite the passages where each tree and flower is named! "Here's a rue for you," he would remark, on discovering that herb, and "There's pippins," though no cheese; and look, here is "a bank whereon the wild thyme grows." To make the thing complete, the garden walks ought to be made of stones with sermons on them, as at the bottom of the garden there runs the Avon, in which the poet's eye, when rolling in its frenzy, possibly discovered a whole library of books.

Among the "curious and invaluable relics of the immortal," which are carefully preserved and exhibited at Stratford, the statement which we quote calls special attention to "a plaster representation in relievo of the battle between David and Goliah," which must be well worth journeying to Jericho to see. This is shown by the proprietor (on payment of a fee), "together with the First Visitors' Book, including autographs of George the Fourth * * * and other eminent individuals, including Mr. Punch.

A still greater treat, however, awaits the Shakespeare pilgrim at the Shakspeare Hall, in Chapel street, where, according to the writer who has been instructing us, may be seen an admirable full length painting, by Wilson, of Shakespeare in the attitude of inspiration; and one by Gainesborough, of Garrick, reclining gracefully upon a pedestal, idolizing the poet's bust.

The old figure of "Britannia sitting on her trident," is recalled to us by this of Garrick gracefully reclining on a pedestal. Had it been a sofa the posture would be natural; but to recline on a pedestal must be rather a hard feet.

Seeing relics, even Shakespear's is somewhat tireing work, and after being dragged round to the "lions" we have mentioned, the visitor will doubtless be glad to sit down somewhere and get something to drink.

Many of the Yankee papers have published the whole of President Davis' message. The New York *Tribune* thinks that it betrays apprehension and the like. It and the Yankees generally; however, can hardly believe a man to be in earnest unless he indulge in braggadocia and rhodomontade. They can hardly distinguish between a bully and a gentleman, or how a man may not boast without being a coward—the Yankee newspaper men especially.—*Mobile Tribune.*

### AVERILL AND HIS MEN—THEIR ESCAPE.

We learn through an intelligent citizen of Fincastle, Virginia, who left home on Tuesday, that there can be no longer a doubt about the escape of Averill and nearly all of his command, despite the efforts of our forces to surround or intercept them. They returned on the Barbar's Creek road, and came out at Hook's on the Rich Patch Mountain, four miles beyond Roaring Run Furnace. This furnace is owned by the Petersburg Locomotive and Iron Works Company, and was not disturbed by the enemy.

Averill moved rapidly all Saturday night on the Barbar's Creek and Raleigh roads, crossing Jackson's river early Sunday morning over the Island Fork bridge, a structure which Gen Lee had ordered Col. Jackson to burn, but which order, we regret to hear was not obeyed. Had the bridge been destroyed, the escape of the enemy would have been impossible. Col Jackson's forces, it is stated, were within two miles of the bridge, but failed to give the enemy battle.

In their hurry to burn the bridge after them, they left 1,000 men behind. They were attacked by Major Laidy, a most gallant officer, who at the head of only 35 men, utterly routed the 1,000, capturing 300 prisoners and 30 negroes. The main command of Averill crossed Jackson's river again, at Covington, about 9 a. m., Sunday, burning the bridge behind them. They then had two roads open to them—the Warm Springs and Anthony's Creek road, by one of which they have doubtless made good their escape. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee was in pursuit when last heard from, but he was 24 hours behind.

It is stated that Gen. Imboden proposed taking his command direct from Lexington to Covington, when he first heard of Averill being at Salem, but he was overruled by his superior officer. Had he been allowed to do so, the enemy would have rushed directly into the very jaws of the lion, as subsequent events proved.

Gen. Echols is said to have committed the great error of blockading a certain point on some mountain, where there were two roads open to the enemy a few miles this side. Had Gen. B blockaded eleven miles this side of where he did, the raiders must eventually have been caught.

At Craig's creek, some 30 or 40 of the enemy were drowned in attempting to cross. Here they lost nearly all their wagons and ammunition. Their artillery were pulled across with ropes.

Mrs. Wm Scott, the proprietress of that lovely resort, known as Scott's Mountain House, in Craig county, lost everything she had. Her furniture was all destroyed, her provisions swept off, and her horses and mules stolen. She also lost a few slaves. The majority of her servants fled to the woods on the approach of the enemy, and remained concealed until Averill had left.

An intelligent prisoner captured near Fincastle, and carried into that town, stated that he belonged to the county of Kanawha. He stated that the object of the raid was to destroy the Salt Works, and that another division had gone in another direction. The division is the same which skirmished with Gen Echols at Greenbrier river, and is supposed to have turned back in consequence of information they received as to our readiness to meet them. The understanding was, however, according to the statement of the prisoner taken, that after the destruction of the Government stores and depots at Salem, the two columns were to meet at Christiansburg, Montgomery county, and march to the Salt Works.

It is truly a matter of congratulation that the cherished object of the enemy was not accomplished, but at the same time, we confess our deep regret that Averill and his band were allowed to escape with but little or no loss or annoyance. Reliable gentlemen residing in Roancke and Botetourt inform us that 50 men could have occupied positions in the mountain gorges and along the road through which Averill passed, where they would have been enabled to have completely demoralized the marauders. But it is said, that they were not fired upon at all—a fact, at which we hear Averill expressed great surprise, and attributed it to a feeling of friendship for the old flag.

It is a remarkable circumstance, but nevertheless true, that Gen. Forrest is the only man who has succeeded in capturing an entire command of these raiders since the war commenced. He did it, too, unaided by any, save his own command. In Averill's case we had Fitz. Lee, Imboden, Echols and Jackson, all at work, and innumerable swollen streams, which the enemy was compelled to cross, but he eluded the vigilance of his pursuers, crossed all the streams, burnt sundry bridges behind him, and is now happily exulting over his exploits in Yankee land.—*R. Dispatch, 24th inst.*

The Yankee Commander-in-Chief, General Halleck, has made a long report of the Yankee campaigns of the past year, in which he most successfully lays all blame from his own shoulders and neatly distributes it upon the backs of the commanding Generals. Nothing failed that he ordered, and nothing succeeded that he did not order. His vanity is equalled by nothing but his falsehood.—*Charleston Courier.*

REMARKABLE SOCIAL GOVERNOR.—Gov. Powell, of Kentucky, was never an orator, but his conversational, story-telling and social qualities were remarkable. His great forte lay in establishing a personal intimacy with every one he met, and in this way he was powerful in electioneering. He chewed immense quantities of tobacco, but never carried the weed himself, and was always begging it from every one he met. His residence was in Henderson, and in coming up the Ohio, past that place, overheard the following characteristic anecdote of him.

A citizen of Henderson coming on board fell into conversation with a passenger who made inquiries about Powell.

"He lives in your place, I believe, don't he?"

"Yes, one of our oldest citizens."

"Very social man, ain't he?"

"Remarkably so."

"Well, I thought so. I think he is one of the most sociable men I ever met in all my life. Wonderfully sociable. I was introduced to him over at Grayson Springs last summer, and he hadn't been with me ten minutes when he begged all the tobacco I had, got his feet upon my lap, spit all over me—remarkably sociable."

PREPARED FOR CHRISTMAS.—The Editor of the Augusta Constitutionalist has received from Mr. J. S. Cooper, of that city, a barrel of Kauffer's celebrated ale, and facilitates himself on having a high time in the Christmas holidays.

GUNBOATS AT MOBILE.—The St. Louis Republican learns from Confederate deserters recently arrived in that city that Capt. DeHaven and Capt. Montgomery, Admiral, are now building two large gunboats at Mobile—the largest, the Nashville, two hundred and sixty-five feet long, and will have the machinery of the steamer Natchez, formerly in the Mississippi trade, between New Orleans and Natchez; and the Tennessee, to have the machinery of the Alonzo Child, formerly in the St. Louis and New Orleans trade.

WILMINGTON MARKET, Dec. 31, 1863.

BEEF CATTLE.—Scarcely any beeves have been brought to market for a week or two past, and the supply is very light. There is a brisk demand for butchering purposes and we quote on the hoof at 70 to 80 cents per lb. for net meat, as in quality.

BEESWAX—$2 50 to $2 75 per lb.

BACON—Small sales from carts at $2 25 to $2 50 per lb.

BUTTER—$5 to $5 50 per lb.

CORN—Is in demand, and scarcely any on market. We quote at $8 to $10 per bushel.

CORN MEAL—Is in very light stock, and in demand.—Sells from the granaries in lots to suit, at $8 per bushel.

COFFEES—Retails at $1 75 to $2 25 per lb.

COTTON—Sales at $1 60 to $1 75 per lb., as in quality.

FLOUR.—The market is rather better supplied, but prices still rule high. We quote small sales from store during the week at $56 for superfine, and $60 to $65 per bbl. for family.

FODDER—$12 to $15 per 100 lbs.

HIDES—Green $. 75 to $4 25, and dry $4 to $4 50 per lb.

LEATHER—Sole $10 50 to $11, and upper $12 50 to $13 per lb.

LARD—By the bbl, $2 25 per lb.

MOLASSES—Retails at $15 to $16 per gallon.

NAILS—$1 60 to $1 75 per lb. by the keg.

POULTRY—Live fowls $2 25 to $2 50 each, and $1 25 to $1 50 per lb. for dressed. Live Turkeys $10 to $12 each, and dressed $. 50 per lb.

POTATOES—Sweet $10 to $12, and Irish $18 to $20 per bushel.

PORK—Fresh has come in slowly, and we quote sales from carts at $1 75 to $1 50 per lb.

PEA NUTS—$10 to $12 per bushel.

RICE.—Green, 60 cts. per lb. by the cask.

SALT—Sales during the week of Bound made at $.3 to $15 per bushel, as in quality.

SUGAR—Is scarce and sells by the bbl at $2 85 to $3 per lb. for brown.

SHEETING—Fayettevile factory $3 35 to $3 50 per yard.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE—$2 50 to $2 75 per gallon.

TALLOW—$2 50 to $2 60 per lb.

YARN—By the bale, $40 per bunch.

WOOD—by the boat load, $20 to $23 for pine, $30 to $32 per cord for ash, and $30 to $33 per cord for oak.

N. C. MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
HARRISS & HOWELL, AGENTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Dec. 30th 94-1w

### MARRIED,

In this town on the 23th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Knapp, Lieut. C. C. R DD to Miss K ZZIE S. GRANT.

Near Peach Grove, Nash county, on the evening of the 25th December, by William T. Bryant, Esq., Mr. C. MOORE to Miss CATHARINE WHITE, all of Nash county.

### DIED,

In the Hospital at Richmond, on the 8th of November last, JOHN A. QUINN, of Albertson's Precinct, Duplin county, N. C., about 30 years of age.

The deceased being aware of the arrangements that were being made by the Northern manufacturers and misguided abolition fanatics to drag Southern white men down on a level with the negro, and tax us to death for the benefit of their manufacturers, shippers and codfish aristocracy, volunteered in defense of Southern rights in April 1861, and joined Captain William E. Wooten's company, in which he faithfully served his country to the time of his death, having been in every battle in which the 27th regiment was engaged, down to the battle of Bristow Station, when he was mortally wounded, and after his death his remains were brought home, and on the 8th instant, interred in the family burying ground. Poor John was a brave, patriotic, and faithful soldier, an honest man, and a good citizen, and has left behind him a wife and 3 children, also, 3 brothers who have faithfully served their country,—to which I will add, his precinct has furnished 98 volunteers, and no conscripts nor has any man hired a substitute, and out of the 98 volunteers, 14 just 1-7th part of the whole number, have offered up their lives upon the altar of liberty. Honor to poor John's name: for it is true that "Cowards die many times, while men of true courage never suffer death but once." He never died but once. Peace to his ashes.

CHOCOLATE.

CIRCULAR.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Nov. 1, 1863.

I. In order to give more immediate effect and operation to the act of February 15, 1-62, intended to provide for "disabled soldiers" (by conferring on them appointments which they may be competent to fill, it is hereby announced that any "disabled soldier" who may desire a position in the Quartermaster's department, should, in order to obtain the same, report to the Chief Quartermaster of the State of which he is a resident, or in which he may be in hospital or on duty at the time of his application, his

| | |
|---|---|
| Name, | Company, |
| Age, | Regiment, |
| Profession or trade, | Brigade, and |
| Place of abode or station, | Nature of disability. |

He will state in his application the nature of the position desired, such as clerk, wagon or forage master, &c., &c.

II. Applicants for clerkships will be required to possess a fair knowledge of arithmetic, to write good English, and in a legible hand. For subordinate positions, less will be required.

III. All applications must be supported by vouchers of unimpeachable character, and the sufficiency of witnesses thereunto, if in civil life, must be certified by some justice of the peace, or other county or municipal officer. Where testimonials are from the commanding officers of the applicant, no such certificate will be necessary.

IV. It shall be the duty of the Chief Quartermaster of each State to keep a register of such applicants, and to place their papers on file for reference; and he will report at the expiration of each quarter the number thereof, and the number of appointments, to the Quartermaster General.

V. Local Quartermasters will (in case they have made no authorized arrangement for clerks or other employees) be expected to supply themselves, as far as practicable, from the class of "disabled soldiers" thus enrolled, who may be found competent to discharge the duties of the department.

VI. Applications should be accompanied in each case by a copy of the certificate which shows the soldier to be disabled, and should be addressed to the Chief Quartermaster of the State in which he may desire to obtain a position, thus:

"To the Chief Quartermaster of North Carolina,
Raleigh."

VII. Posts of Chief Quartermasters are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Virginia | Richmond. |
| North Carolina | Raleigh. |
| South Carolina | Charleston. |
| Georgia | Augusta. |
| Alabama | Montgomery |
| Mississippi | Enterprise. |
| Florida | Lake City. |
| Louisiana | Alexandria. |
| Texas | San Antonio. |
| Arkansas and Missouri | Little Rock. |
| Tennessee and Kentucky | Knoxville. |

VIII. When a place has been found for any applicant, the Chief Quartermaster in whose district the post may be, will proceed at once to obtain, through the regular channels, the detail and assignment to duty of the "disabled soldier" thus provided for.

IX. The earnest co-operation of all officers of the Quartermaster's department in carrying into effect this system, when it can be applied without manifest injury to the public service, is confidently expected.

A. R. LAWTON,
Quartermaster-General.

Dec. 29th, 1863. 94-2t—14 2t.

Executive Department North Carolina,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Raleigh, Dec. 15th, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6.

I. THE FOLLOWING ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA is published for the information of all concerned:

AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT IN RELATION TO THE MILITIA AND A GUARD FOR HOME DEFENCE.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That neither the Governor of this State, nor the officers acting under an act ratified on the 7th day of July, 1863, entitled "An act in relation to the Militia and a Guard for Home Defence," shall call out for drill or muster the persons enrolled under said act, oftener than once a month in company drill, or oftener than twice a year in battalion drill, which battalion drills shall take the place of the company drills for the month in which they are appointed, unless when called into actual service to repel invasion or suppress insurrection, or to execute the laws of the State.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the Governor shall have the power to use the Guards for Home Defence for the purpose of arresting conscripts and deserters; *Provided*, they shall not be ordered upon this duty beyond the limits of the counties in which the reside or the counties adjacent thereto.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That in addition to the exemptions contained in the act to which this is an amendment, there shall be exempt county commissioners appointed under an act entitled "An act for the relief of wives and families of soldiers in the army," regular millers, blacksmiths who have established shops, necessary operatives in factories and foundries, the Attorney General, Solicitors of the several circuits and counties, physicians of five years' practice, contractors with the State or Confederate government, one editor to each newspaper and the necessary compositors, mail carriers, professors in colleges and teachers in academies, *Provided*, that this exemption shall only apply to the drills specified in this bill and not to service when the Guard for Home Defence is called into the field.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That for failure to attend at battalion or regimental drill, each field officer shall forfeit and pay the hundred dollars, each Captain and other officers who shall fail to muster and drill their companies the times appointed, shall forfeit and pay for each failure fifty dollars, and if a non-commissioned officer or private shall fail to attend at any drill, he shall forfeit and pay not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars; *Provided* that every absentee shall be allowed until the next muster to make his excuse. The fines shall be adjudged by regimental and company courts martial, and judgments are to be entered up and the fines collected in the same mode and in accordance with the provisions of the Militia Law of North Carolina, passed at the second extra session of the General Assembly, 1861.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That the Surgeon General by and with the advice and consent of the Governor, may appoint surgical boards, not exceeding three, composed of two physicians each, who shall declare by their certificates those persons who shall be exempt from service under the act to which this is an amendment, on account of mental or physical disability, and who shall receive the pay of their rank and traveling expenses, to be determined by the Adjutant General.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That the Guard for home defence, should they be called into service by the Governor, shall receive the same pay, rations and allowances as soldiers in the Confederate States' service, and shall be subject to the rules and articles of war of the Confederate States.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That when the pressure of public danger shall not prevent the observance of such a rule, the said Guard for home defence shall not be called into service en masse, but by drafts of a number of men from each conveniency, so as to make up the aggregate to be required.

SEC. 8. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall be in force and take effect from and after its ratification.

Read three times and ratified in the General Assembly, this the 14th day of December, A. D., 1863.

S. DONNELL, S. H. C.
G. LEE McBANE, S. S.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

I, JNO. P. H. ROSS, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original on file in this office.

Given under my hand, this 14th day of Dec., 1863,

J. P. H. ROSS,
Secretary of State.

II. The company drills required by the 1st section of the foregoing act will take place on the second Saturday in the months of January, February, March, May, June, July, August, September, November and December, and the battalion drills on the second Saturday in the months of April and October.

III. The 3d section of the foregoing act is construed to mean that the parties enumerated are exempt from drills, apprehending deserters, and other ordinary duty of the Guard for home defence, but are not exempt from duty when the Guard for home defence is called into service to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or to execute the laws of the State.

By order of GOVERNOR VANCE:

R. C. GATLIN, Adjutant General.

Dec. 19, 1863. dlw

### RECEIVER'S NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted, either by note or account, to the estate of G. & C. Bradley and WILLIAM K. COVEL, Alien Enemies, are hereby notified to pay the same to me, at my office, during the month of January, 1864. Parties who comply will shun a notice will save costs. Those who do not comply will incur full costs of a regular proceeding against each one. It is hoped that the parties indicted will save themselves much trouble and the heavy costs of a suit in the Confederate Court.

DeBRUTZ CUTLAR, Receiver.

Dec. 30, 1863.—94-j31


# AUCTION SALES.

BY WILKES MORRIS, Auct'r.

*NEGROES FOR HIRE.*

WILL BE HIRED, at the Market House, in the town of Wilmington, on the 1st day of January, 1864, several good House Servants, and one good Cook, Washer and Ironer.

W. E. FREEMAN, Guardian.

Dec. 30. 94-2t

BY WILKES MORRIS, Auct'r.

*VALUABLE NEGROES AT AUCTION.*

ON FRIDAY NEXT, 1st inst., at 11 o'clock, A. M., I will sell at Exchange Corner, a likely family of negroes, consisting of

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NEGRO WOMAN, | 30 | years of age, | |
| a superior cook, washer and ironer. | | | |
| LIKELY NEGRO GIRL, | 14 | years of age. | |
| " " | " | 12 | " " |
| " " | BOY, | 10 | " " |
| " " | " | 5 | " " |

Dec. 30th 94 ts

BY WILKES MORRIS, Auct'r.

*DWELLING HOUSES FOR RENT.*

ON FRIDAY, 1st January, at 11 o'clock, A. M., I will rent at Exchange Corner, until 1st October, 1864,

THAT VALUABLE AND DESIRABLE DWELLING, situated upon Front Street, next North and adjoining the residence of H. F. Brown, Esq.

ALSO,

At same time and place, the residence on Fourth Srteet, formerly occupied by Mr. T. L. Helden.

Dec 30th 94 tf

BY WILKES MORRIS, Auctioneer.

*VALUABLE REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION*

ON FRIDAY NEXT, 1st JANUARY, AT 11 O'CLOCK, A. M., I will sell at Exchange Corner

THAT VALUABLE LOT,

Situated upon the corner of Front and Hanover Streets, 132 feet on Front by 100 feet on Hanover, being West end of lots 4 and 5, block 262, Turner's Plan.

Dec. 30, 1863 — 94 ts

BY WILKES MORRIS, Auct'r.

WILL BE RENTED, til the 1st October, at the Market House, on Friday next, the 1st of January, a very convenient, comfortable two story House, containing four rooms, with Kitchen attached, situated on Walnut Street, next below the residence of Capt. Bates.

Also, an ordinary Dwelling, over the Railroad, immediately north of the Barracks; all belonging to the estate of W. H. Craig, and rented by order of

P. W. FANNING, Administrator.

Dec. 30. 94-tr

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

A COMPETENT PERSON to act as Clerk on board a Confederate steamer at this port; one used to keeping accounts preferred. Address C. L. J., at this office, with reference.

Dec. 31 94 3-eod.

WHITEMORE COTTON CARDS,
WOOL AND JIM CROW CARDS,
HORSE AND MULE COLLARS,

Prime Rio Coffee, Awls and Thread, Hoop Iron, Hand Saw Files, Gun and Pistol Flints, Tacks, Brushes, Curry Combs, Upper Leather, Blacking, Pins, Razors, &c., at

WILSON'S

Oil, Leather, Saddlery and Harness Establishment.

Dec. 28th 93-3i—14-1t

CLOTHS AND CASHMERES.

JUST RECEIVED, A LARGE AND ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF

*CLOTHS AND CASHMERES.*
*LASTING BUTTONS,*

TWO HUNDRED GROSS OF FINE BLACK LASTING BUTTONS,

*IRISH LINING,*

ONE CASE OF IRISH LINEN.
150 DOZEN LADIES' HOSE.
A SUPERIOR ARTICLE OF WHALEBONE.

*GRAY CLOTH,*

ENGLISH ARMY GRAY,
the finest article imported into the Confederacy, at

JAMES McCORMICK'S,

Dec. 17th, 1863. 84 tf ins

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE

*Of Turpentine Lands in Columbus County, 38 miles from Wilmington.*

WILL be sold on the premises, on the 14th day of January next, a certain tract of land, lying on the west side of Bogue Swamp, and on both sides of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad, between Flemington and Whitesville, containing about 1500 acres, more or less. Said tract adjoins the lands of Powell, Farrior, Barber, Creech and McCracken; has about five tasks of boxes, with some cleared land; a good dwelling house, store, warehouse, turpentine still and all necessary out buildings. The boxes are nearly filled, and a good face on the trees.

There is a fine stand for business and a Post-office on the premises.

This offers a rare opportunity for investment, and possession will be given immediately.

Terms cash; or six months credit with approved security.

For further particulars apply at Hallsville, to

THOMAS HALL,
Administrator of J. S. Hall, dec'd.

Dec. 15, 1863 82&12-11thd*

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified as Administrator on the estate of W. T. J. Vann, deceased, here

# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, DEC. 26, 1863.


SATURDAY, Dec. 26, 1863.—There is not much use in trying to get out a paper to-day, but we will do the best we can. When on going to our office this morning, we found only one of our compositors; one more came in some time afterwards; with these two and two others who are necessarily employed otherwise, we concluded to try what could be done. Short of our positive the best of times, we think if we are unable to get the *Journal* before the public to-day, we shall do remarkably well.

Christmas day passed off remarkably well so far as we have been able to learn. We have heard of no casualties of any kind. The weather was alike by cold and clear. To-day it is a little warmer, still cold and clear. Turkeys were by no means numerous, and we presume but few families had the pleasure of eating a good sized gobbler at the extravagant price of $2 50 to $3 per lb.

The Knights were slim yesterday—an unusual occurrence. We suppose the movers felt the effects of hard times in proportion to which feel. An attempt at Kriss Kringle being made to-day, will probably result in a failure. Others contemplated a visit to Kinston indeed.

Our Editor is absent, and our office is more than a few days. We hope (for the Editor) he enjoyed his Christmas like a good Christian as we know him to be, after a couple of weeks rest on the Railroad.

In our absence it is hoped we will be found at the post when we are present, and that our friends will not forget us.

The current opinion is that the Confederacy is destined to be successful in the present struggle for its independence, and that the people will be required to make only a little more sacrifice of time and money. Only a little more patience, only a little more firmness, only a little more self-denial, and the end will be reached. Let us not be discouraged, but remember that the darkest hour is just before the dawn.

A gentleman from one of the eastern counties within the lines of the enemy, informs us on the authority of a Yankee official, that the negroes which are held in Newbern by the Federals are dying at the rate of 25 to 30 per day. In addition to being entirely without shelter, they are suffering from small pox, and some other very malignant disease, the name of which our informant could not recollect. Such being the case, if the Yankees continue to steal the slaves from their comfortable and healthful homes, their guilt can hardly be estimated to its full extent.

The gentleman who brings this intelligence is known to be worthy of all credit, and he thinks that there will surely be an abandonment of negro stealing in our eastern borders for the time to come. We forgot to add that the contrabands in Newbern are also in a naked and starving condition.—*Greensboro' Patriot.*

### People we can Dispense With.

If any enterprising individual wish to form a colony at the North Pole, or Central Africa, or any far off place where the voyagers will be warranted never to come back again? If so, we can point out quite a crowd whose export would never be lamented over by our native land. We are not sure but the government would pay their entire expenses, to get rid of them for ever and forever. Here is a list of the most promising:

The man "who can't live within his salary," and is always wanting to borrow money, but who wears as broad cloth and expensive sleeve buttons as his millionaire employer.

The woman who brings up her daughters on a diet of hard puppers and dancing school, and who "cannot account for Anna Maria's conduct" when she elopes with a peddling dry goods clerk!

The man who would rather buy a new coat (on credit) and cheat the tailor, than to be degraded by a neat patch on his elbow.

The woman whose stocking toes resemble a cullender in their ventilating conveniences but who considers a neatly executed darn in the skirt of a dress to be a vulgar bygone endurance.

The man who is always "making up his mind," who answers every question with "Well, I don't know exactly," and stands with his hands in his pockets, until it is too late to do anything else with them!

The woman who always has to stop and sew on her boot strings when she is going any where—who is universally behind hand—who is too late at church, too late at market, too late to get her railroad ticket, and invariably arrives at the steamboat landing just three seconds after the plank has been taken up!

QUESTION FOR CONGRESS.—Perhaps after all the most efficient way of reinforcing our army would be for Congress to make some provision for the sustenance and clothing of the men already in service. If it be true, as asserted, that nearly one half of the army of Tennessee was absent at the time of the battle of Missionary Ridge, there must have been a cause for it, and until that cause is found out and the remedy applied, it is foolish to talk about reinforcing with raw recruits.—If the Government cannot keep its present army in the field, the policy of levying new recruits may be questioned with much show of reason. With proper management, there are men enough already enrolled to claim our fortunes; but with half the army scattered about all over the country, and those in service neither clothed nor fed, we may expect further reverses, even should every white male inhabitant of the Confederacy be enrolled as a conscript.

GENERAL MEADE ON HIS LATE MOVEMENT.—The following is an extract from a letter of General Meade to a friend in Newark, New Jersey, written just before the last movement of the Army of the Potomac:

"I am fully aware of the great anxiety in the public mind that something should be done. I am in receipt of many letters, some from persons in high positions, telling me I had better have my army destroyed and the country filled up with the bodies of the soldiers than to remain inactive. Whilst I do not suffer myself to be influenced by such communications, I am and have been most anxious to effect something, but am determined, at every hazard, not to attempt anything unless my judgment indicates a probability of accomplishing some object commensurate with the destruction of life necessarily involved. I would rather a thousand times be ridiculed, charged with tardiness or incompetency, than have my conscience burdened with a wanton slaughter, uselessly of brave men, or with having jeopardised the great cause by doing what I thought wrong."

The Boston Traveller says: "It is remarkable that notwithstanding all the avenues we have opened into the planting States, most of the cotton received is that which has run the blockade or been captured in the attempt. In the first three days of the present week, of 2119 bales received at New York, 773 bales came from Matamoras, 383 bales from Cuba, 105 from Nassau, 72 from Carthagena, &c., and only 511 bales by railroad from the interior and 250 by sea from New Orleans. We are importing from foreign countries much more than we are exporting, and, notwithstanding the price of the staple keeps pace with that of gold, the exports from N. York are merely nominal."

PEACE RUMORS.—It is a noticeable fact that for a long time the word "peace" has hardly been heard in the South. In a brave nation, suffering and struggling for its independence, pouring out its blood like water for liberty, there is something grand in this stern silence. Among the chattering Yankees, however, the desire for peace cannot be concealed. The wish is father to a thousand rumors founded on absolutely nothing.—*Charleston Courier.*

### For the Journal.

**Christmas in Camp.**

KINSTON, N. C., Dec. 26th, 1863

*Messrs. Editors Daily Journal:* It was with pleasure Christmas day passed off among the soldiers here, long to be remembered as a day of fun and hilarity to both citizens and soldiers. In the morning there was a gander pulling over to the Brigade, and he had to surrender his head to one of the North Carolina Cavalry. After him, some of the old Cape Fear Minstrels, aided by a few members of the 13th N. C. Battalion of Artillery, dressed up as Ethiopian Serenaders, and gave an entertainment free of charge at many of the residences around our camp and in Kinston, and many was the laugh created by the many jokes with which the company was so well stocked. Bones, in his well known character as Danceur, elicited rounds of applause from many of the fair sex, and well were they deserved, as he can compete with many star actors in that branch of amusement. Cato, with his large fund of dry jokes, often set the audiences in roars of laughter, while Julius enlivened the times with many quotations most beautifully misplaced. Jones, with banjo, and Cuffee with his violin, discoursed eloquent music for the ears of many who witnessed their performances. He rest acted well their part, and no fault could be found with the least of them. By request, they lastly entered the ball room and saw many of the elite, where many merry peals of laughter greeted their comic and dark appearance. Cork wood being scarce in camp, to disguise themselves they took to the outsides of many a luckless pot and oven whose coat was soon transfered to their faces, hands, &c., giving them the color not of the rose, but of ebony well greased.

Truly yours, &c., A. R. W.

P. S. There is very little sickness at present among the boys here from W., and all send their kindest wishes for your welfare, and hope you have enjoyed much fun during Christmas day.

Your obedient servant, A. R. W.

WHAT AN ARMY CORRESPONDENT SAYS OF THE "RELIABLE GENTLEMAN."—"P. W. A.," in a recent letter from Dalton to the Savannah Republican," says:

It is exceedingly difficult for one who remains with the army to get at the exact truth, however industrious and conscientious he may be, so difficult, indeed, that I have come to the conclusion that there is very little truth in history. The prejudices, partialities, interests and passions of men obscure the truth, just as the clouds and mists shut out the sun and hide him from our gaze. An example in point is furnished by the late battle, where in one brigade was the first to yield; and yet but for the candid admission of Gen. Anderson, who is as truthful as he is chivalrous, that his own brigade, he would be considered one of the most, if not *the* most cowardly in the whole army, was the first to retire, the vexed question would still remain; for when one goes to the officers and men of the brigades themselves, he finds that every one of them can point to others which give way before his own did. If it be so difficult to winnow the wheat from the chaff here in the army, how can a fugitive from the field, "an intelligent officer from the front," or "a reliable gentleman who came down on the cars," extract the truth from such a mass of falsehood and give it a consistency worthy of publication? The tales of passengers, like the cinders and ashes in railway locomotives, increase and multiply the further they travel, and the more they increase and multiply the less valuable do they become; when the authors of so much news have reached "the city," and been piled and poundered and belabored by industrious reporters and editors, the result, like the soot beaten out of the engine which has transported such precious weight, is too small to be calculated.

# TELEGRAPHIC

Reports of the Press Association.


Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.


FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 26, 1863

Nothing unusual to-day. One hundred and thirty shells were fired into the City, from 12 o'clock Thursday night to 4 o'clock Friday afternoon. The enemy fired from five guns, three at Battery Gregg, one at Cummings, and one at the Mortar battery. The damage is comparatively trifling. The engagement on John's Island between our light batteries and the gunboats in Stono resulted in a drawn fight. Few casualities only on our side.

FROM CHARLESTON

CHARLESTON Dec. 27 h, 1863.

The enemy fired four shells at the city last night.

No firing from Morris Island to-day. Our batteries have kept up a vigorous fire on the enemy's working parties, who are erecting another battery on the extreme end of Cumming's Point.

Our loss in the Stono affair was one private killed and five wounded—two mortally. The enemy raised a new flag on the middle battery; at the first effort they had it union down.

LATE EUROPEAN NEWS.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 27th, 1863.

European dates to the 12th inst. have been received. The fight between Heenan and King came off on the morning of the 10th at Tunbridge. King won in twenty five rounds, the fight having lasted thirty-one minutes. The English papers give elaborate accounts of the fight. The Times devotes a leader to the affair, and says that Heenan's game throughout was to close in and put a hug on. King's tactics consisted in striking a series of sledge hammer blows on Heenan's prize until the latter collapsed from exhaustion. The Times insists that prize fighting is more revolting than bull fighting, and ought to be discouraged.

Russia, in regard to the European Congress, expresses an ardent desire for the pacification of Europe by an understanding between the Sovereigns, but says that it is indispensable, that the Emperor of the French should define the basis upon which the understanding should be established.

The Alabama was expected at Sudias.

Fears of a further advance in the rate of discount of the Bank of England have somewhat diminished.

The Confederate loan is 35 to 40 per cent. discount.

The Liverpool Cotton market was firmer and prices are half-penny higher. Consols 9⅞.

The British Crown lawyers have pronounced the condemnation of the British Bark Springbok, by the New York District Court, as illegal and vexatious. Lord Lyons is to remonstrate.

The Baltic Gazette says that the two steam rams built at Glasgow for the Confederates have been purchased by the Russian government.

NORTHERN NEWS.

RICHMOND, Dec. 27th, 1863.

The Steamer New York arrived at City Point on yesterday, with seven officers, five Surgeons, and five hundred and seven enlisted men. No sick or wounded arrived.

The Baltimore American, of the 23d, was the only paper received last night. The army news is unimportant.

Liverpool advices of the 11th state that the Pampero has been formally seized by the Customs authorities. The Rappahannock is being rapidly completed at Calais.

A serious revolt has occurred in India among the hill tribes, and a sanguinary engagement has been fought.

All matters connected with the exchange of prisoners has been turned over to Gen. Butler, and the impression prevails that the cartel will be resumed. Further news will be sent to-night.

LATE NORTHERN NEWS.

RICHMOND, December 27, 1863.

United States papers from the 18th to the 24th inclusive have been received.

Averill reports in detail that after destroying a large amount of rebel property, he crossed the top of the Alleghanies with his command, with the exception of four cavalrymen. His loss was six men drowned, five wounded, and four officers and ninety men missing. His command, he says, has marched, climbed, slid and swam three hundred and fifteen miles since the 8th inst.

The steamer Chesapeake has been captured and her crew turned over to the authorities at Halifax. But on reaching that port the citizens assembled and rescued them. The affair caused great excitement at Halifax.

The Morning Star has arrived at New York from New Orleans. Among the passengers is Gen. Weitzel, who has been transferred to Butler's department; also the captain of the schooner Joseph L. Gerety, which was captured by six passengers, who surprised and imprisoned the crew, and took possession of the vessel. The Gerety left Matamoras on the 15th, bound to New York, with a cargo of cotton.

General Michael Corcoran died at Fairfax Court House on the 22d from injuries received from a fall from his horse.

General Grant arrived at Nashville on the 20th.

Gold in New York is quoted at 154.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, December 17th, 1863.

A brief address was read from the several pulpits in this city to-day, requesting the various congregations and the citizens generally to send edibles, clothing, etc., to the military hospitals on Friday, as a New Year's offering to the sick and wounded soldiers.

FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

ORANGE, C. H., Dec. 26th, 1863.

Gen. Rosser made a circuit of the entire Yankee army during the past week, starting from Fredericksburg and entering the Valley at Conrad's Store. He burnt the bridge over Pope's head run, near Langston station, just out from Alexandria, capturing and destroying the troops left as a guard. Owing to the high water and bad weather he was prevented from doing more. Gregg's Yankee cavalry pursued but did not overtake him. Rosser was forced to swim Bull Run. Our loss is very slight, if any. The enemy, while in pursuit, destroyed two Tanneries containing leather at Sperryville, Rappahannock County; also two Tanneries and a flour mill and some Government work shops at Tusa, in Page County, and committed many other excesses, including the taking away of negroes, and shot a Confederate named Smedley at Washington, Rappahannock County, after surrendering.

Parties just from Culpeper report the enemy to be pulling down all vacant and out houses in their lines, including all churches, in order to construct winter quarters. The enemy are issuing rations to the citizen's in Culpeper County. The enemy moved some infantry as far in this direction as Mitchell's station on Thursday evening, to act as front pickets, and relieve the cavalry to go rearwards to recruit.

FROM BRISTOL.

BRISTOL, Dec. 26th, 1863.

All is quiet in front. Two hundred and thirty-six prisoners, captured at Beans' station, have arrived here. A slight rain has been falling all day.

FROM DALTON.

DALTON, GA., Dec. 27th, 1863.

Gen. Jos. E. Johnston and staff arrived here on the train last evening. To-day he issued an order assuming command of the army of Tennessee. Eleven Yankees, captured on yesterday a short distance above Tunnell Hill, by a detachment of Kelly's cavalry, were brought here to-day.

CURIOSITIES OF FASHION.—It is a question, I think, whether the fashion influences the age, or the age moulds and shapes the fashion; but it is obvious that there exists a subtle relationship between them. A high-bred courtesy, a certain elevation of manner, a loftiness of language, and even a refinement of thought, seem naturally to associate themselves with the rich and stately costume of the men of the sixteenth century.—Look at the cavaliers in the glorious pictures of Vandyck; who can believe that from the lips of such be ruffled and be-plumed gentlemen ever dropped any coarse ribaldry or vulgar slang? Those grave and potent seigniors who glow on the splendid canvas of Titian; can you believe them capable of the deeds in which delighted the buckskin-breeches and cocked-hats of our Macaronis and Mohawks in the days of the second George? When I look upon the sweet and noble women of Vandyck, and compare them with the bare-bosomed beauties of Lely, I trace in the distinction of costume and fashion the difference of morals and taste, and the wide gulf between the pure household life of the reign of Charles I, and the social abandonment of that of Charles II. Morals and manners keep pace with the changes of costume, and are indicated by them.—*London Society.*

### The Assault on Knoxville.—Yankee Account of the Gallantry of the Confederates.

The New York papers contain a long account of the assault made by a portion of Gen. Longstreet's force on Knoxville. The night had been very cold, and at dawn next morning the Confederates were seen advancing in three lines to the assault. A heavy artillery fire was immediately opened upon them. Despite the storm of canister, which bowled around them, on came the rebel host, with brigade front, slowly pouring over the railroad cut, and anon quickening in motion as the ground presented less obstruction, until at last, emerging from the nearest timber, they broke into

THE CHARGE.

Across the open space which intervened between the timber and the fort, and which was crossed with logs and the stumps of felled trees, they now came at impetuous speed. The first check was given when the foremost of the column stumbled over a line of telegraph wire, which had been stretched through the low brush laid coiled from stump to stump out of ordinary view. As they halted here momentarily, one falling over another, until the cause of the obstruction was discovered, our batteries in the fort had full play, and Benjamin, Buckley, and Roemer poured in their rounds quick and fast, while the infantry of Ferrero kept up a galling fire from musketry. The embrasures of the fort and the whole line of the parapet blazed at once with discharges. Still the rebels pressed on, their battle flags of red, with cross of blue, floating defiantly above their heads, over the serried line of bayonets. Rallying over the temporary obstruction, leaping the stumps and logs, and pushing through the brush, they were within pistol shot of the fort. Our men, during the last few minutes, had received orders to reserve their fire until each could single out his target at close range, while Benjamin treble shotted his guns, and Buckley loaded with his terrible canister.

THE REPULSE, ROUT AND RETREAT.

And now, together, all launched forth. The effect was terrific. Broken in their line, a few of the more desperate of the rebels sprang into the ditch, clambered up the glacis, and almost side by side with the flag of the Union planted the banner of treason. But, confused, panic stricken, the rear of the column gave way and retreated down the hill; others, again, afraid to advance or retreat in the face of what was certain death, and appalled by the heaps of slain which strewed the field, threw down their arm and surrendered.—The most desperate—and a gallant band they were—remained fast by their officers, who valliantly kept the lead to the very fort itself, and following them as they jumped into the ditch, attempted to scale the glacis, each to receive his death wound as his head appeared above the parapet. A captain, in words which would sound oddly at so thrilling a moment, and in language more forcible than polite, demanded the surrender of the garrison as he pushed his body through one of the embrasures and faced the very muzzle of the cannon.—His answer was the discharge of the piece, when rent limb from limb, his mangled corps, or what was left of it, was hurled outward into the air. His comrades, still lurking around the corners of the trench, essaying by every means to get within the work, were now subjected to the fire of hand grenades, which Lieut. Benjamin extemporized by cutting short his fuses, which he lit, when he tossed the shells over the edge of the parapet. Baffled at every point, and finding themselves unsupported by the rest of the charging column, they surrendered, and were hauled within the fort, though not until the trench was piled with the dead and dying.

As the main body gave way and fell back the carnage among them was fearful. Their disordered line at length disappeared within the timber, while a wild huzza went up from our victorious boys. A few straggling shots around the angle of the fort and in the trenches, mingled with the heart-rending means of the wounded and dying, and the fight was over. The grand assault had been made and repulsed; the storming party which had advanced so lately in all the pride and confidence of veterans, had met an enemy their equal at least, and was now a scattered mob in the woods beyond. In short, Knoxville was still ours!

A TRUCE—BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

And now, how sudden the transformation of man from fiend to angel! The agonizing cries of the wounded and dying called out the better feelings of humanity, and on the very spot where an hour before the combatants were struggling in deadly strife, they now commingled in the offices of charity. The wounded in the trenches were first relieved by Captain Swinscoe and Lieutenant Benjamin, who went to their immediate assistance with canteens of water and liquor. The trench presented a ghastly sight, with the mangled bodies and pools of blood, while the field beyond was strewn with the same terrible objects. Colonels Bowen and Babcock, of Gen. Potter's staff, soon after made their appearance with a formal flag of truce, and passed out upon the Kingston or Loudon road, until halted by enemy's skirmishing line. They were met, after a brief delay, by Colonel Sorrell, of General Longstreet's staff, when a cessation of hostilities was agreed upon, to last until 5 p. m., to permit the interment of the dead who were lying along our lines, and the exchange of the wounded.

The following is a copy of the letter which led to the establishment of the truce:

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Knoxville, East Tennessee, Nov. 29, 1863.

Major General McLaws, or other Officers Commanding Confederate Forces on Kingston Road:

GENERAL: Under instructions from Major General Burnside, commanding the Army of the Ohio, I address you this communication for the purpose of offering a cessation of hostilities for sufficient time to arrange for the removal of your wounded lying in front of my lines. Lieutenant Colonel Bowen, A. A. G., the bearer of this communication, is authorized to make such arrangements for this purpose as may be agreed upon. Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier General Commanding.

The ambulances from both sides now met on the neutral ground, and the dead were carried back to the rebel line, where they were buried by their late comrades. The officers commingled from Generals down to Lieutenants, and so also did the soldiers, until their officers ordered them back to their respective places. Nearly a hundred of the rebel wounded had been carried into the city and cared for at the hospital of the Ninth Corps. By direction of Dr. Wilder our ambulances, with some of those of the rebels driven by Union soldiers, went back into the city, obtained such of the wounded as were not fit to be held as prisoners of war, and delivered them on the dividing line, where our ambulances—drivers being exchanged in turn—went within the rebel line and obtained our wounded. So much delay ensued in doing all this that the truce was extended beyond seven o'clock, the opposing officers still remaining together, chatting in the most agreeable manner upon every topic which suggested itself. Finally the last wounded Union soldier was obtained, the last ambulance returned within our works, the officers of the contending armies who had mutually found and greeted many old friends and classmates, shook hands with the utmost cordiality and parted.—In a few minutes the firing of the pickets indicated the resumption of hostilities. It may be well

INCIDENTS.

During a battle many little occerrences transpire which, in the hurry of a letter for the mail, or for a courier, as in the present case, the correspondent cannot interweave in his narrative at the proper point. But as they form interesting features of the history of the occasion, they cannot well be disregarded for that reason.

Among the individual acts of gallantry was that of sergeant Judge, of Co. K, 79th Highlanders, who, when the battle flag of a Georgia regiment was raised upon the parapet, rushed out amid the bullets, and tearing it down, carried it in through the embrasures, a prize, to his comrades.

The 29th Massachusetts captured two other flags—one belonging to the 16th Georgia, and one to the 17th Mississippi—making three in all which were taken during the day.

When the rebel wounded were brought into the city the "secesh" ladies manifested their sympathy by sending or giving them various delicacies, or by calling at the hospitals with blankets, clothing and other comforts.

The Episcopalian clergyman of this place is an "irrepressible" shepherd of his flock. At the usual hour divine service was held, and it was a curious contrast to listen to the music of church bells where a few hours before the air had reverberated with artillery and musketry. A stranger who would not take cognizance of the soldiery and hearken to its peaceful notes, would hardly believe that two hostile armies were contending so near by.

INCENDIARISM.—On Monday morning last, between 3 and 4 o'clock, the barn of Sheriff Boon was discovered to be on fire. All efforts to stay the progress of the flames were unavailing, and in a short while the building and contents were reduced to ashes. The loss of grain, forage and property will reach about four thousand dollars.—*Greensborough Patriot.*

The navigation of the Mississippi by the Yankees appears to be very similar to the navigation of the river Jordan, which in the popular mind is supposed to be a hard road to travel. Memphis papers of the 1st, say that the steamer Mill Boy had been sunk on the White River, and guerrillas have made their appearance at Island 65, and give the following account of the work done by Taylor's batteries:

From passengers who arrived on the steamer Nebraska, from New Orleans, we learn the following particulars concerning matters on the river.—It appears that Dick Taylor, with a force estimated at thirteen hundred, has been operating near the mouth of Red river. His object appears to be to destroy boats engaged in navigating the Mississippi.

A small battery was recently placed on the west bank of the river at Waterproof, a few miles above Natchez. The steamer Welcome was fired into by this battery, and several large holes made in her.—Although several shot struck her, yet we learn that no one was injured. Several head of cattle were killed. Subsequently a battery was placed in position on the west bank of the river, a short distance below the mouth of Red River. The steamer Emerald in passing down received several shots, but we did not learn that much damage was done. The small gunboat, No. 3, which passed about the same time, received two or three wounded.—The next day as the steamer Black Hawk was approaching the point on her way from New Orleans to Vicksburg, she was saluted by a terrible fire of shot and shell.

One shot blew off a part of the pilot house and took off the leg of Sam Fulton, her pilot. A second shot killed a colored man, taking his head completely off.—A shell entered the texas setting it on fire. By the presence of mind of the mate the boat was headed to a bar almost in front of the enemy's battery, and the passengers were landed. The fiends on shore fired a charge of grape and canister.

A gunboat very opportunely arrived, and changed the face of affairs by compelling the rebels to take to their heels and escape the best way they could. The flames on the Black Hawk were extinguished after the pilot house and the texas was wholly consumed. A staging was afterwards erected, and a wheel extemporized, in which condition she was taken to New Orleans for repairs.

Those who have been on board of her say that she was perfectly riddled with shot, and it is wonderful that no more were injured. Although the rebels have been driven from the bank of the river, transports in that vicinity are convoyed by gunboats.

CASE OF HABEAS CORPUS.—During the regular Term of Rockingham Superior Court, Daniel Jones, of Virginia, was brought to Wentworth and lodged in jail by the assistant Enrolling Officer for that county. Jones lives in Henry or Pittsylvania; is over 47 years old; was found near the cave of some deserters on his own plantation; was arrested with them and brought into this State. Jones explained that his son in turning up the cows saw the cave, and in consequence of what he told him, he went to the cave and was arrested while there. He employed the Hon. J. R. McLean and Gen. W. L. Scott, who at once prepared him a petition for a writ of *habeas corpus*, being satisfied he was illegally restrained of his liberty. Judge Howard was holding the court, issued the writ, and when it was returned before him, he held that he had no jurisdiction of the case, and remanded him to the assistant Enrolling officer's custody.

Jones was carried to Raleigh, and thence to Richmond and thrown into one of the prisons. So soon as Mr. McLean returned to Congress, he sued out a writ of *habeas corpus* from Judge Haliburton's Court, which was made returnable on the 13th inst., at 11 o'clock. Jones was absolutely discharged. The District Attorney made no opposition, and took occasion to say that it was an outrage to arrest men without authority and send them to prison, and thereby trouble the courts with such cases. We make this statement that the officers of the law may be more careful.

*Greensborough Patriot.*

From the Atlanta Intelligencer.

### Johnston, Bragg, and Hardee.

On the reception of the news by the soldiers of the Army of Tennessee, that Gen. Joseph E. Johnston had been appointed to the command of this army, there was universal rejoicing among both men and officers. The war-scarred veteran and hero of the First Manassas and Seven Pines, has endeared himself to the soldiery and people of this Confederacy by his lofty patriotism and purity of character. He comes to the army of Tennessee as no stranger; but as one well remembered and beloved. Gen. Johnston on assuming command of the Army of Tennessee, for a short time, at Tullahoma, in March last, mixed freely with the officers and men, and by his easy carriage and approachability, soon won the love of the men by his familiarity, which is so necessary to inspire confidence. The reputation of Gen. Johnston as a military man and a strategist, is second to none in the Confederacy. With such a leader, the Army of Tennessee must prove invincible to any force which the enemy can mass against it.

While Gen. Bragg has made a military fame before the people of this Confederacy unburnished, *sans peur, sans reproche*, it must be admitted that he has been unfortunate. Luck, or success, is the great criterion by which we are all governed, and it is the superstitious talisman by which the masses are made to *believe*. Gen. Bragg should not, however, be made to suffer in his military reputation for not having produced a perfect success in the campaigns and schemes planned by others, and which were failures before their attempted execution. In this respect it is believed that Gen. Bragg was but obeying orders, and which produced the impression that he was no strategist. But as a brave and gallant soldier and executive officer we think Gen. Bragg has no superior.

While the army rejoices at the coming of General Johnston, they at the same time have had the fullest confidence in the military talent and ability of Lieut. Gen. Hardee, and would have been well contented had he been left in command as their leader, under whom, as a corps commander, they have been so often led to victory, and saved from disaster. At Shiloh, Murfreesboro', and at Missionary Ridge, before Chattanooga, Gen. Hardee exhibited the most masterly qualifications of a military commander and brave soldier, which has inspired his men with love and veneration.

To the exalted, unselfish patriotism of General Hardee, the army and people owe the assignment of General Johnston to the command of the army. While the President had full confidence in the military capacity of Hardee as a commander, and would have, no doubt, kept him in that position, it is but just that it be known that it was at General Hardee's own urgent solicitation and request that the President consented to relieve him.

Instead of being governed by a venal military ambition and selfish aspirations, Gen. Hardee alone looked to the welfare of the country and success of our cause; and therefore considered it would be the interest of both that a full General should be put in command of the army. Gen. Hardee being but a junior Lieutenant General, and army corps commander, (one of the most important positions in the service,) felt that in that capacity he could fill up a gap which, should another Missionary Ridge calamity overtake us, he might again save the army.

Since he has been in command, the army of Tennessee has been harmoniously reorganized, and is now thoroughly armed and equipped, the ranks having also been filled up, and large reinforcements added to its former strength. All deficiences in the different departments have been supplied, the Commissariat has been vastly improved, and the men are now well fed, clothed, shod and blanketed, besides a regular and full supply of forage for animals.

All we now require is, that the people shall come forth to sustain that army which has been so long protecting their hearthstones and firesides; for while the pampered citizens have been enjoying the comforts of home, the poor soldier has been freezing on his lonely post, or wet, hungry, and chilled to the quick, shivering over camp fires, with a frosty sky only for his shelter—exposed to snow storms and cold rains—fording streams waist deep at a freezing temperature, and on the forced march, barefooted, fainting under a hot summer's sun.

For three years nearly has our army borne these hardships without a murmur, to say nothing of the storms of battle they have so often encountered to save the homes of the citizens and heartless speculator from being sacked by a vandal infidel foe.—The people's time has now come—every man is called upon to take up arms in his country's defence, if he would win Liberty and Independence. By next Spring we must have 500,000 men in the field. Come forward, then, and rally for a great victory; join our brave soldiers in the field, who will cordially welcome you, and share with them the glories of a triumphant success, and before another winter shall come, our country shall be FREE!

THE LAST WORDS OF A GOOD WOMAN.—The wife of a Bishop in England died recently, being a woman remarkable for her piety and excellence of character, and her last words were expressive of her fitness to be for ever of interest, and her last words were expressive of her fitness to be for ever of interest, and her last words were expressive of her fitness to be for ever of interest